

KEIRA

December 2020

News



Great traditions, a confident future.



From the Principal

When we look back on 2020 we will always remember a year that had been like no other.

When I look back on this time I will always remember a time that I felt most proud. Proud of a school community that responded to an exceptional challenge and made sure that the very best of opportunities were still delivered to all our students.



I will also look back on 2020 as my last year as Principal of Keira. I have always valued the immense responsibility of serving the school and wider community and will always be grateful that I was afforded the privilege.

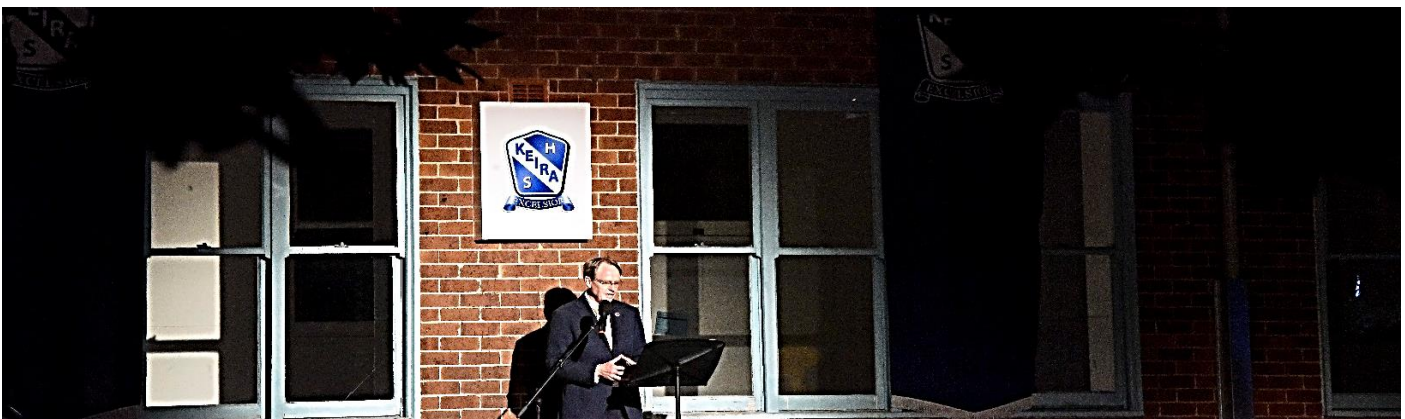
Keira is a gem in the crown of Public Education. It is exceptional and it will continue to be so. I am very fortunate to have played a part in its evolution.

With best wishes and many thanks.



Mr D J Robson
Principal







From the Deputy Principal

Mr David J Robson

Mr Robson has announced his intention to begin his retirement at the end of this school year. I know you all will join the school staff in both thanking him and congratulating him on his superlative leadership of Keira High School.

Mr Robson has served the Keira High School Community since 1996. As Head Teacher of English, as Deputy Principal and since 2011 as School Principal. In all these roles David has been tireless in driving an agenda that continues to deliver the highest quality public education for our learning community.

David's professionalism and commitment are highly valued by countless generations of Keira alumni and this is brought home to me every time we meet an ex-Keira student in any context. Our community demonstrates a deep level of trust in David's outstanding leadership of this great public school.

David's absolute commitment to all aspects of school life being pursued to the absolute best possible has again been demonstrated this term with the delivery of a fabulous Graduation event. David's vision for this event drove it from first concept to seamless execution on the night. I know from countless conversations with Year 12 students how valued as students of Keira by the extraordinary care that the ceremony exemplified.



Although we will miss David's day to day leadership of the school we know that his involvement in the school will not end now and look forward to him continuing to impact on the quality of leadership within the school.

As it says under the school crest; **Proud traditions, a confident future.**



School Planning

2020 brings us to the end of a School Planning cycle. The School Executive are currently finalising our **Situational Analysis** in preparation for the development of our new **School Improvement Plan for 2021 - 2024**. In Term 1 we will be **consulting and collaborating directly with members of the school community** in developing the new **School Improvement Plan** (SIP).

COVID-19

Thank you, to all families and members of our community who have worked closely with us in ensuring the learning for all our students continues to take place in a safe environment across this year. We greatly appreciate the responsible way in which parents and carers in our community are managing the health of students at this time, while navigating a continually developing context. Your clear communication with us regarding student absence is a key component in our daily operation at this time.

We very much value your understanding of the need to conduct key end of year events in a Covid-19 safe way. We hope that the filmed events are enabling you to still feel connected with key events while recognising that in some cases it is hard to replace being there in person to share moments of success.

We are seeing a gradual easing of measures within a school context and are hopeful and look forward to sharing many successful events with our community across 2021.

Upcoming Events	
Date	Event
Term 1 2020	
Week 1	
Wednesday 27 January	<i>Staff return</i>
Friday 29 January	<i>Years 7, 11 and 12 Commences</i>
Week 2	
Monday 1 February	<i>Years 8, 9 and 10 Commences</i>
Week 4	
Friday 19 February	<i>Whole School Swimming Carnival – Corrimal Pool</i>



Mr T Loades
Acting Deputy Principal



From the Deputy Principal

Junior Reports

As I write this we are in the final stages of checking reports ready for printing and distribution in Week 10 as planned. I would like to thank all staff members involved in this process, ensuring that parents receive a report that accurately describes the achievement of their children.

Starting Strong in 2021 @ Keira

I am pleased to be the Deputy Principal supervising Year 7 for 2021, and very much looking forward to their arrival. By the time this newsletter is distributed, the *Starting Strong in 2021 @ Keira* website will be live. The site is a COVID-safe way of providing incoming Year 7 and their parents with all the information they would have normally received on a night just before O-Day.

The site contains welcomes from the school captains, the principal and relieving principal, as well as messages from myself, the Year Advisors and the Student Support Officer so that students will know the key personnel in the school before they arrive. There is the well renowned Uniform Fashion Parade, starring a number of our current Year 7 students and ably compered by Sydney McGuinness, alongside a tour of the main areas of the school.

Important documentation such as the New Student Handbook, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) requirements and school policies (such as mobile phones, uniforms and student discipline) that ensure Keira upholds the high standards set by the school community are also to be found on the site [O Day and O Week](#).

Given the current restrictions on visitors to the school, the incoming Year 7 will not be having an orientation day this year. Instead, taking advantage of the extra school development day in January 2021, the new Year 7 will have O-Day on their first day at the school – Friday 29 January 2021.

This will be followed by a special O-Week from Monday 1 February to Friday 5 February 2021. We want our new students to have a strong start to high school, and we are currently hard at work designing some intelligent activities to ensure they are supported, engaged and appropriately challenged. Also, ice blocks!

Uniform and Mobile Phones

The proximity to holidays does not mean we relax our standards – as always, students should be in full school uniform every day, including white socks that are easily visible above the shoe line. As always, mobile phones should be **switched off** and remain in students' bags while they are on school premises. Staff will continue to provide consequences for students who do not comply with these measures, which are in place to ensure that teaching and learning remains the prime focus for the school day.

Season's Greetings

Finally, as the year draws to a close, I would like to wish all students and their families a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to seeing you at this brilliant school again in 2021.



O Day @ Keira

Friday 29 January 2021

8:50 am – 3:10 pm

I'm Starting Strong in 2021

Mr G Langford
Deputy Principal





From the Deputy Principal

Congratulations to Year 12 & HSC Exams

Congratulations to our graduating Year 12 students. Your efforts and resilience through the 2020 HSC year have been exemplary. In Term 4 we saw our students successfully complete over thirty HSC exams across a four-week period. Considering that back in April, we were not even sure whether we would be having HSC exams this year, this was amazing.

As young adults, you have been flexible and accommodating in your approach, and deserve the well-earned break before your next adventure. Your graduation was spectacular - one of the best that I have attended, and a fitting finale for a challenging year. Best wishes for the journey ahead.



Year 12 - volleyball in quad - last 'official day' of school 2020

School leadership 2021

In Term 3 we started the processes associated with identifying the student leadership team for 2021. Activities included students completing written applications, making formal speeches for their peers and staff, online voting and finally undergoing an interview process where applicants were interviewed by a panel of staff and current captains. All of these elements were then combined in order to identify our Keira High School Captains and Leadership Team for 2021.

I would like to ***congratulate all of those students who undertook the application process***. It is a significant decision to apply, and you should be proud of your efforts.

By Week 5 Term 4 we were ready to announce the successful applicants to the school. They are:



2021 Captains meeting with Mr Robson

Kye Storey (Captain), Aisa Karalic (Captain)

Joven Paopeng (Vice Captain), Angus Paddon (Vice Captain)

Sydney McGuinness (Vice Captain), Rontae Forscutt (Vice Captain)

As a newly formed team, our leaders have already displayed a willingness to support school initiatives and dedicate their efforts to different aspects of student leadership. They need to be complemented for their willingness to work within a unique context in terms of the selection processes, but they have already shown that they possess the important skills needed to succeed, and ensure they have a positive impact on the school environment.

Congratulations to Year 7 - Year 8 2021

It has been so pleasing to observe the development of Year 7 across the year. Whilst 2020 has presented us with challenges, most students in Year 7 have **risen above expectations and displayed commitment** to their learning, and **aimed at continuous improvement**. A number of students have been regular recipients of school Copper and Bronze awards, and I am pleased to say that I have also handed out Silver awards to our high achievers. Moving into Year 8 in 2021 will present us with new experiences and new opportunities for excellence. Best wishes for the summer break.



Some Year 7 action shots from the School Cross Country carnival - Week 6



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day (11th of November) is a **significant day of commemoration** across our planet. At Keira we celebrate peace whilst we remember those who lost their lives because of war. This year we were unable to conduct our traditional Remembrance Day assembly, but we celebrated through engaging with a video produced with our Student leaders and Senior Executive. The video was shown across the school on Remembrance Day in the period leading up to the 11am minute silence. It was an important moment of respect and reflection, and as a school, *"we will (always) remember them"*.



Captain Kye Storey addressing the school for Remembrance Day 2020

Laying of the wreath - Mr Loades and the 2021 Student Leadership team - Remembrance Day 2020

Travel safely

It is essential to remember that in our movement to and from school, that we are safe and respectful at all times. Our students travel in a range of ways, and those students who use public transport are often complemented for their respectful behaviour. Unfortunately, there have been several incidents when some students have not represented our school values in a positive and consistent way.

Please ensure that **respect, safety, courtesy and kindness** are at the forefront of student behaviour, and that we display to our community what it means to be a Keira High School student.

When travelling to and from school on public transport students need to adhere to the Transport for NSW Guidelines for Managing School Student Behaviour on Buses and the code of conduct for travel by bus and rail.

The code covers areas including:

- safety and behaviour requirements
- the comfort of other passengers
- carrying passes
- protection of property
- consequences of misbehaviour



Please refer to these documents for further information about travelling to and from school on public transport.

If your child **rides their bike to school** - excellent - this is a great way to exercise and improve wellbeing. We always encourage students to wear a helmet for safety reasons, and to use a quality bike lock for security.

Again, if students are riding their bikes to and from school, please encourage them to ride with a high level of respect for cars and pedestrians, and **be on the side of safety rather than risk** when riding on our roads.

Being Safe Online

One of the most exciting things about starting high school for some students is being trusted to have a mobile phone. This technology, whilst being absolutely amazing, can also present many young people with challenging situations and content. Our **school has a strong mobile phone policy** - if a student chooses to bring their phone, then they need to be *off and away* in bags from when students arrive, to when they leave at the end of the day. We have adopted this policy to protect our students and support their wellbeing.

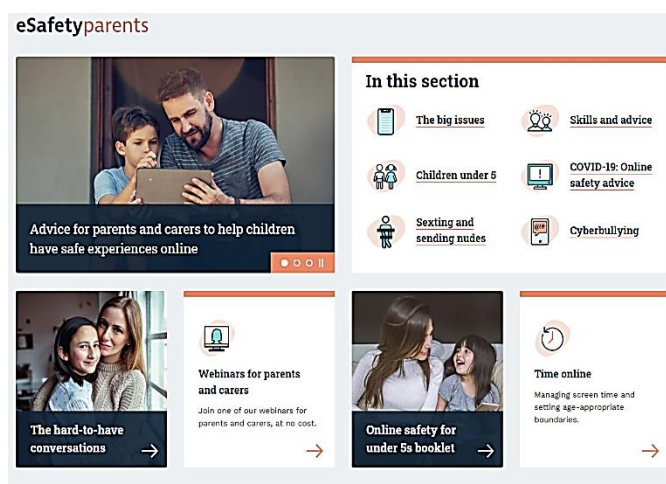
As a school, we encourage students to be aware of issues around cybersafe, and support them with understanding the laws that protect them from harm when online. The **Office of the eSafety Commissioner** has an excellent website for young people, and adults, and provides a wide range of resources and information that will support safe practice.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

PS: If you subscribe to Netflix, there is a documentary that is worth watching called '**THE SOCIAL DILEMMA**' (PG 13+). It focuses on the technology behind social media and how it is designed.

Interesting viewing and a good conversation starter.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the families that I have been able to work with this year whilst I have been relieving as Deputy Principal. Strong partnerships between families, schools and community are essential for student success. Best wishes for the festive season, have a safe break and we look forward to working with you again in 2021.



Mr K Weber
Relieving Deputy Principal

News from the Office



Business Manager

New Bell System

After two weeks of a flurry of installations across the school during the holidays we now have the joy of our new bell system chiming throughout the grounds. Thank you to our school community for adapting to the new sounds enthusiastically and responding accordingly. A big thank you to *Sturman's Audiovisual* and their team of installers, a very professional job from a local company.



Signage

It has been an interesting trip through the history of Keira High School recently as we have been updating our signage for our classrooms. The original numbering of classrooms has gone from a range of old copper numbers through to our current signs and everything in between. From 2021 our new students will be guided through the different blocks of the school by directional and consistent signage.

Our Environment

Over recent years our Principal Mr David Robson's vision for a safe, welcoming and versatile educational environment has been the impetus for many improvements across our school. Projects such as the Art Garden, Music Studios, Rainforest, Stone Circles and too many more to mention have provided wonderful educational and relaxing areas for our students. Mr Robson is always respectful of the environment for our students and has led upgrades and improvements to our buildings and grounds with imagination, integrity and resourcefulness for which our school community is very appreciative.

Thankyou Mr Robson.

Mrs T Tzanopoulos
Business Manager



Administrative Manager

Applications for student travel in 2021 are now open

School Travel for 2021



New Applications

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go **online** to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Students who require a student travel pass or School Opal Card for 2021 can now apply online.

A new application should be submitted if:

- A student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time
- An additional pass is required as a result of a new shared parental responsibility (joint custody)
- Students who have changed their school, address, repeated a year or received a notice of expiry, should also **reapply or update their details**.

Applications should be completed by a parent/legal guardian if the child is under 16, and by the student themselves if they are over 16.

Applications need to be submitted **before December 31 2020**.

Replacement of Expired Opal Cards

From January onwards, there will be a number of School Opal cards expiring as the physical card has reached its lifespan.

These are cards for students who will be in years 8 to 12 in 2021, and only those Opal cards that have not been replaced in the last 5 years.

Impacted students and/or their parent guardian will be contacted directly by Transport NSW via email or post. Students and Parents/carers will need to confirm their details online in order for a new School Opal card to be sent to the correct postal address in time for the new school year.

Affected students who do not confirm their details in time will have a new School Opal card posted to the address currently held on file by Transport NSW.

Mrs L Deitz Administrative Manager

BREAKING NEWS

The Keira High Homework Centre will reopen in 2021!



The impact of the global pandemic has led to many changes in the way all schools function. Due to the country and states' management of our population's wellbeing, we are permitted to enjoy changes more reflective of the way we have operated in the past. As a result, The Keira High Homework Centre will be reopened for all students in 2021.

Students use The Keira High Homework Centre in a way that best suits them. Some attend every week as part of their study regimen, some seek support leading up to assessment tasks, and others simply drop-in seeking specialist support from specific teachers who are supervising that week.

Students have full access to the library books and computers to assist them to complete assigned work to the best of their ability. Additionally, a nutritious afternoon tea is also provided.

DETAILS

DAY: Tuesday afternoons

TIME: 3:15pm- 4:30pm

WHERE: Keira High School Learning Centre

The Homework Centre Team look forward to supporting your young person's learning journey when the New Year commences. We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces next year!

Mrs Holliday and The Homework Centre Team



News from Administration

Attendance Matters

Year 11 into Year 12 Students

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

As Year 11 students have commenced the 2021 HSC course this term, they are able to discontinue a subject from their pattern of study. This could see students having timetabled study periods. It is advised that HSC students remain at school in order to engage in directed study in the Learning Centre.

As 2021 commences, senior students will be able to leave school if their study periods are at the end of the day. A note will be provided to parents / carers early next year giving permission for their child to leave school in this event.

If study periods are at the beginning of the school day, it is expected that students follow the normal school routine and arrive at school for Roll Call at 8:50am.

Outstanding Absence Explanations

Under the Education Act, parents are required to notify the school with an explanation of their child's absence. This is to be done within seven days of the first day of absence. There are a number of outstanding absences that are required to be explained before the end of the term.

If your child has unexplained absences, please contact the school to justify these. To assist this process, a letter outlining any unexplained absences will be provided.

Mr P Slattery
Relieving Head Teacher Administration





News from School Counsellor

We can all face challenges from time to time. As your School Counsellor, I would like to share two great counselling and support websites, Beyond Blue and Headspace Meditation.

Beyond Blue Young people (12-25) Ph: 1300 224 636, Chat online, Email or Join Online Forums

Going through tough times?

Stress, anxiety and feeling down can affect anyone, and happens to a lot of us at some point in our lives.

We all have good days and bad days. However, if you're feeling sad, down or anxious and these feelings have started to affect your everyday life, then it's important to find out what's going on and how you can manage it.

It's never too early to start looking after your [mental health](#) and wellbeing so you can be the best version of yourself.

Headspace.com - Headspace Official Site - Ready. Set. Meditate

www.headspace.com/

Everyday Mindfulness and Meditation for Stress, Anxiety, Sleep, Focus, Fitness, and More. Find Out What Mindfulness Can Do for You in Just 3 Minutes a Day. Start Your Free Trial. Learn the Basics for Free. Hundreds of Sessions. Build Healthy Habits.

Holidays are around the corner and we are all looking forward to them! It is important to relax, have fun and spend quality time with our family and friends. I would like to share a useful link from Family Health and Mental Wellbeing with some useful tips to have a happy, healthy rejuvenating break: -

Please use: <https://learnprimary.com.au/learning/school-holidays-a-survival-guide-for-parents/>
(Parent_School_Holiday_Survival_Guide_web.pdf)

**Ms A Ahmed
School Counsellor**



News from Supervisor of Female Students

At Keira High School we had lots of fun organising and participating in a range of R U Ok? Day activities. Isabella Mitev and Breanna White demonstrated outstanding leadership skills running the competition watching their peers go bananas guessing how many lollies were in the jar.



"On Thursday the 10 of September, Keira High School celebrated RUOK? Day and recognised the importance of mental health. Throughout the day, the SRC held a range of activities for students to participate in. One of which was the banana lollies guessing competition. The SRC were given a jar of yellow banana lollies, signifying the RUOK? colours and asked the students to guess how many were in the jar. They received a lot of responses from students, some of which were really close. Both the SRC and the student body thoroughly enjoyed holding and participating in this competition and look forward to the next RUOK? Day." Isabella Mitev.

And the winner is... Brodie Sheean from Year 9!

Congratulations! Brodie was the lucky winner of the banana lolly guessing competition.



Mrs M Andrievski Supervisor of Female Student

Great traditions, a confident future.



News from Year Advisers



Year 7 – Mr J Berry



Year 7 continue to engage in quality learning and participate in various initiatives and activities around the school. This term, students have participated in recreational sport and the Cross Country, which has allowed them to get physically active and enhance their physical and social wellbeing. Year 7 showed bravery during their recent immunisations facilitated by Ms Andrievski. Any student who was absent or has opted to be immunised outside of school can access their local GP and receive their immunisation.

On Thursday 17 September, Ms Agim and Mr Berry lead the facilitation of Kindness Workshops for the Year 7 cohort. The aims of this initiative were to support students' social wellbeing and to build resilience, support self-regulation of behaviours and become self-aware of their roles as citizens of the Keira High School Community. Some of the highlights of this initiative were the creation of a Kindness Wall and The Marshmallow Challenge.

The Kindness Wall aimed to show students deep understanding of what it means to be kind and creating an impactful message using post-it notes. Social interactions are not possible without communication and teamwork. The Marshmallow Challenge facilitated these skills as students worked together to build the tallest structure which held a marshmallow without collapsing. This activity focused on communication, team-building, problem solving and fostering positive relationships.

The workshops were engaging, productive and students developed a renewed understanding of building positive relationships. At the conclusion of the workshop they were given pocket cards instilled with the message: kindness begins with me. A big thank you to Ms Agim for her clever leadership of this initiative. It was certainly a great experience for Year 7 and we look forward to future programs.

Some of the messages from Year 7 students:

'you don't need to be friends to be kind' -Aiysha S

'teamwork is important' – Obie R

'it's free to be kind' – Jagger P

Some Positive Acts of Kindness by Year 7 after the workshop:

'I lent someone a helping hand after the workshop'

'I have smiled at everyone'

'I bought my friend some food'

'I called my friend to see if she was okay'

'I have complimented others'

'I am helping my parents set up the dinner table'

'I printed off an assessment task and helped my friends organise their ideas'

Kindness
begins
with me.

As the Year Adviser team for Year 7, we would like to reinforce that students can find Mr Berry in the Special Education Staffroom and Ms Agim in the English Staffroom.



Year 8 – Ms A Pike

Well we made it to Term 4 finally. What a year it has been for Year 8 at Keira High School! There have been some exciting things happening all around to finish off the year.

Our annual sport assembly is a time where we can acknowledge the talented sports people we have in our year group. It is with great pleasure that I can announce the following students have achieved Athletics and Swimming Age Champions.

13 Years

Dustin Moffitt – Athletics, Swimming, Cross Country

13 Years

Alicia Moscrop – Cross Country

13 Years

Akira Nepia – Athletics

14 Years

Callum Burge – Swimming, Cross Country

14 Years

Lily Drysdale – Swimming, Cross Country

Following on from this, Presentation Awards for 2020 are on Wednesday 16 December. This is a fantastic event in which Year 8 students will be recognised for their academic achievements throughout the year. Additionally, a prestigious award will be given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and resilience throughout the year. This is known as the Year Advisors Award. There will be more information on this in our first newsletter in 2021.

Congratulations to all students who have begun to think about how they could further enhance their skills or learn new skills through selecting elective subjects for next year. This is an important step of many decision making processes that students will need to encounter during their time at school. If any students would like to seek advice on this process, please see myself or Mr O'Brien.

As the school year draws to a close and the holidays begin to fast approach, an array of students will be looking to participate in various activities during the holiday break. Wollongong Youth Services have a variety of events happening during the break or students can even participate in daily programs that are run at the main youth centre in Wollongong. You can follow Wollongong Youth Services on Facebook, send them a DM or call (02) 4227 8222 for more information.

It is important to reflect on the difficulty of the year, yet celebrate the resiliency of our students. If you or someone you know is feeling down or unwell during the break and you need someone to talk to, the following services will be available.



Headspace- [\(02\) 4220 7660](https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/wollongong/)

<https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/wollongong/>

7 Atchison St, Wollongong, New South Wales 2500

Kids Help Line- 1800 55 1800

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/teens>



Have a jolly, warm and happy break! Be safe and I look forward to continuing leading Year 9 2021.

Great traditions, a confident future.



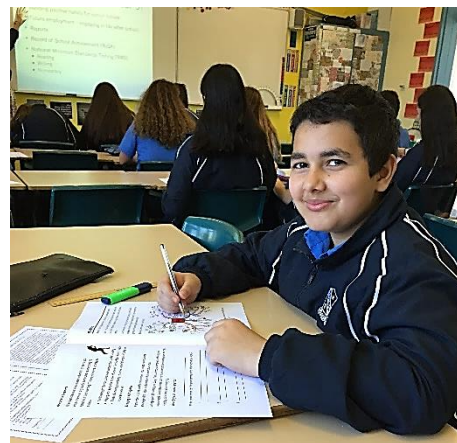


Year 9 – Mr B Thompson

Students from Year 9 have engaged with a Study Skills Initiative this term.

The session provided students with the opportunity to work through an interactive booklet in small groups. Students engaged in discussions surrounding the importance of mind maps and how they could apply this strategy into their current study regime.

Students were required to apply a range of summary techniques to a written passage and discuss the effectiveness of these within small groups. The session concluded with all students receiving a visual stimulus, which identified five key strategies that students can use to maintain optimum health and wellbeing whilst studying.



Year 10 - Ms M Holliday

Project 22: Appropriating World Cup Goals to the Keira Context.

Many moons ago, Australia began heavily investing in developing a super squad that would represent Australia at the 2022 World Cup, ideally held on Australian soil. Although that vision did not transpire, that does not mean that 2022 will be void of exciting possibilities and rewards. 2022 will be known and celebrated as our current cohort of Year 10 students' Higher School Certificate year. One of the wonderful things about being a high school teacher is supporting the journey of young people during their formative years. Watching and supporting them to grow into responsible, caring citizens is as equally satisfying as tracking their academic progress.

Subject selection

Term 4 is a busy term for all students at Keira High School, but it is a particularly important term for Year 10 students as they commence their transition to the Senior School and Stage 6 learning. Part of this process involves selecting subjects to form the basis of their Higher School Certificate experience.

Mr Langford, Mr Loades and I have finally received all of the students' subject selection forms and are in the process of ensuring that they receive the best pattern of study available to them. Ideally, subjects are selected on student interest and skill. We know from experience that students who enjoy what they are learning and engage meaningfully in the quality learning experiences provided, they yield the best results.

The Stage 6 Curriculum is the final important stage of NSW Secondary School Education. Year 10 students are excited about this next phase of their learning journey. Ms Hicks and I have spoken to many students who have stated their intention to apply themselves more purposefully to achieve their very best in the senior school, maximising opportunities for their experience post school.

While the Higher School Certificate is an important next step for many students, it is not the only path forward for our students. Some students have indicated that they will take their next steps at TAFE, enrolling in courses that commensurate with their desired career paths, and others have indicated that they will step into the world of paid employment. Careers Adviser, Ms Ellem, and other teachers supporting Year 10, are committed to ensuring all students find the path that suits them best. For some this will be university and their pattern of study will reflect this. Whatever path your young person chooses, we will support their aspirations.

Peer Support

We will deliver our extremely successful Peer Support Program in the latter weeks of Term 4. Year 10 students will be trained to become Peer Support Leaders and will guide and support our newest students of Keira High School, the 2021 Year 7 cohort. Year 10 students will develop their leadership, communication and interpersonal skills, which will be required in Term 1 next year when they support our new students.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful students at Keira High School, particularly Year 10, for their efforts throughout the year. We look forward to supporting the students who are returning next year and send our best wishes to those students who have made the decision to learn in different contexts, or paid employment. As you all learnt in the first unit in your study of English this year, it's not the destination that's important, it's the journey! (Sorry, I couldn't resist!)

Take care over the break.



Year 11 – Ms M Moore

My name is Ms. Mariah Moore, and I am a member of the Personalised Learning and Engagement team. During Week 6 of Term 4, I joined the Wellbeing Team as the relieving Year Adviser for Year 11 and will remain in that role until the end of Term 4, 2020. I am excited to be a member of this team as I have always wanted to be more involved in supporting our students at Keira High School.

I am elated to focus on the aspects of the wellbeing framework including the ability to **connect** with our students, watching them **succeed** in all aspects of life and helping them **thrive** as respected members of our community.



Congratulations Year 11, you have officially started your HSC journey! This year you all overcame multiple obstacles to ensure you successfully entered your first term of your HSC. Every single student should acknowledge the hard work and effort you all put in to make it through the year of 2020.

Venturing into your HSC studies, you should remember three important things. Firstly, make sure that you have organised your study timetable. Make sure to allocate a time to study for each subject and organise it around your schedule. Secondly, you should try to further develop your time management skills. You have access to your HSC Assessment timetable and should ensure you are planning your workload accordingly as to not overburden yourselves. Lastly and most importantly, look after your wellbeing. Make sure you are allowing yourselves time to wind down and relax. Your mental health is important and is the foundation of your physical wellbeing.



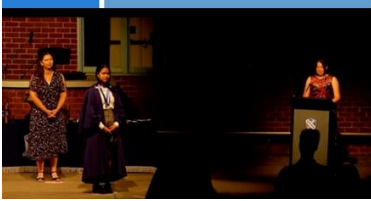
Year 12 Ms D O'Keefe

It has been a busy term for year 12, with the end of their schooling and the completion of the Higher School Certificate examinations. On Wednesday 12 November we celebrated the HSC Class of 2020 through their Graduation from Keira High School. The ceremony was held in the grounds of Keira High and was filmed to be shared with the families and friends of students in Year 12. This was a beautiful ceremony, and a fitting farewell of this wonderful group of students.

Our final celebration was the Year 12 Formal, held at The Lagoon. Students were all looking fabulous and thoroughly enjoyed our last time together as a group. Congratulations to all of the students of year 12. You have certainly demonstrated resilience this year and have put in the hard work to make it through your final year of school. It has been a pleasure looking after you during your time at High School and I wish you all of the best for the future.



YEAR 12 GRADUATION 2020



YEAR 12 FORMAL 2020



interact

As 2020 draws to a close, the Interact team at Keira High appreciates that our community has dealt with significant challenges this year.

Our role as Interact is to raise funds and awareness for local, national and international causes and initiatives. The Keira High Interact Club is going to have a busy 2021!



As we look into the next year, we are enthusiastic to help these most compromised areas of our community to rebuild, to provide extra support and to promote positivity.

We look forward to seeing new members, especially from Year 7, joining our club to contribute in assisting our initiatives in 2021.

Mr J Bentley
Interact Coordinator

English Extension 2

The English Extension 2 Course provides students with the opportunity to create a Major Work in their own chosen medium. They are expected to undertake independent investigation to achieve this result and are required to document any progress or ideas in a Major Work Journal. This journal assists in the construction of the Reflection Statement which must be submitted with the Major Work as an accompanying document. The length of the Major Work varies depending on the chosen medium.

What did you gain personally and as a writer by doing Extension 2?

I began the English Extension 2 Course with little knowledge and experience of how to construct a Major Work. Up to that point, the longest piece of writing I had ever completed was no longer than 1500 words and the course required a whopping minimum of 5000! It was safe to say that initially, I was clueless on how to even begin. The possibilities were endless.

It was this large range of options that allowed me, however, to finally explore what I was interested in and to eventually settle on an idea that felt true to what I wanted to say. For the first time in my entire schooling, I was allowed to create something that was entirely my own.

Though the process of constructing my Major Work has been tedious and difficult at times, it has taught me so much about myself and the way I think.

This is what I believe to be the greatest take-away of this course. It allows you to take agency of your own work, to learn what style of writing suits you best and to understand your own unique assemblage of thoughts and ideas. This allowed for a rich and rewarding journey that I am glad I undertook.

Sherla Wong
Year 12



Sherley Wong and Sherla Wong submitting the final drafts of their Major Works

Sherley's Story Extract

a broken house

There is a house that is crumbling. Its plaster peels and curls and yellows, leaving its rotting underbelly exposed.

The steps creak under your weight.

The air is dusty.

Entering a broken house is akin to tumbling.

When you step inside there is a great deal of falling down into a blackness so dark you cannot comprehend its beginning or end. Its edges and corners obsolete in this wide expanse of empty space and nothingness. You're sinking further down without really sinking and falling without really falling. Here everything is infinite.

Everything continues on in a constant *drip drip drip*, into black drains that submerge and swallow.

And you cannot feel your fingers or arms as they grasp desperately for a handle in the air, anything to stop you from vacuuming into the kaleidoscope of images and colour.

There is nothing to ground you, nothing to tether you into place. There is nothing *here*. Not for you and certainly not for me.

Reflection Statement Extract

The study of postmodernism in the Preliminary English Extension 1 course accounts for the fragmented narrative structure, which furthers the agenda of unnerving the audience and heightening the tension. An example is the use of truncated sentences in "And all is silent. All is dead" to create a discomfort within the audience. This atmosphere was borrowed heavily from Elliot's poem 'The Hollow Men'. The repetition of "This is how the world ends" has also been replicated, through a clock that is described to be "Ticking, ticking, ticking, tick" to reflect the sense of urgency experienced by the narrator to either rekindle or allow their relationship with their partner to stagnate. Elliot's examination of the aftermath of industrialisation and the subsequent alienation of man from society also aided in the creation of a setting that is simultaneously uncomfortable and hopeful, thus demonstrating the narrator's agency over their own circumstances.

Sherla's Story Extract

That day standing on top of the twirling stairs they saw into each other's souls and the love that hovered. The vast night was a choreographed blizzard, where the stars moved and the galaxies tumbled and darted. When he watched her, it was as if space and time became the finest points imaginable, as if time collapsed into one tiny speck and exploded into a million hues of pinks, blues and yellows. And with his heart beating a mile per minute and his body trembling with jolts of electricity, he kissed her. All the same, the constellations who had witnessed centuries and millenniums also watched over this tiny moment.

Reflection Statement Extract

The concept behind my Major Work began to take shape after viewing the film, *Beast of no Nations*. I was fascinated by the human capacity to experience perpetual violence and still be capable of love: "*When he watched her, it was as if space and time became the finest points imaginable, as if time collapsed into one tiny speck and exploded into a million hues of pinks, blues and yellows.*" The idea that love could be such an innate force, as well as one of the few things that transcends time, inspired me to examine its place in the contemporary world through the backdrop of a society riddled with violence and hate.

MINECRAFT IN ENGLISH

8EE have been studying drama and examining the different types of stages that are used for production.

After studying Hitler's Daughter by Evi DiCesare, Sandra Eldridge, and Tim McGarry, a dramatic adaptation of the novel by Jackie French, students in 8EE experimented with Minecraft Education to explore their ideas on how they would stage a selected scene from the play. Hitler's Daughter is an interesting play that explores ideas about the Holocaust, and the moral complexities of human behaviour.

Working independently or collaboratively, students presented their conclusions to the class. Their peers were taken through different Minecraft worlds and their choice of stage and how the actors would be positioned on the stage with props to present their chosen scene, explained.

The response was positive and I was most impressed by the quality of the work produced. The students' high level of engagement reflected their commitment to demonstrate their understanding of stagecraft.

WHAT DID STUDENTS SAY?

Max Barnes: *"I selected the 'bunker' scene towards the end of the play. This is because bunkers have an interesting layout that allowed me to create an X Ray view of it that I found interesting to look at. Minecraft allows you to build many things, but when you come across limitations due to the 'blocking' nature of the game, it helps you to think creatively and improve. Because of this, you can build clever and creative structures well, despite the fact that a majority of the game is made of cubes."*

Joshua Kirkman: *"The Minecraft Hitler's daughters stage creation task was an interesting experience. It was a teamwork task for my friend and I, which meant we had to work and brainstorm together to achieve our goal. Minecraft is a game of creative gameplay. This creative mode gives us the option to create whatever we like using a large range of different blocks. We decided to create the stage and it would be the 'bunker scene'. We wanted to do this scene because it has an immersive atmosphere. Minecraft was complicated but enjoyable because it worked our brains while using our video game experience."*

Cooper Wakeford: *"I enjoyed using Minecraft as it is a fun and creative game that I used to play at home and really enjoyed."*

Sam Rolfe: *"I enjoyed using Minecraft for this task as it allowed us to collaborate with peers and allowed us to have a wide platform to work from. I found that working with a friend allowed us both to make the scene better and bounce ideas off each other to create the best stage possible in the timeframe allocated."*

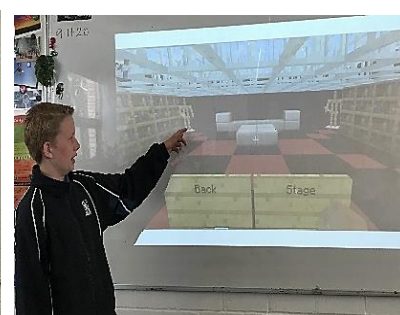
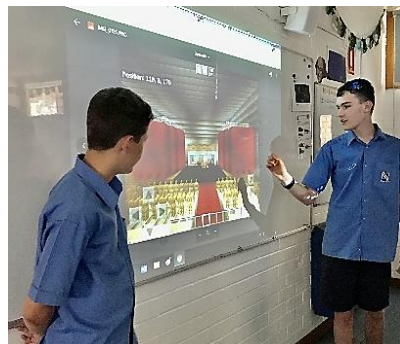
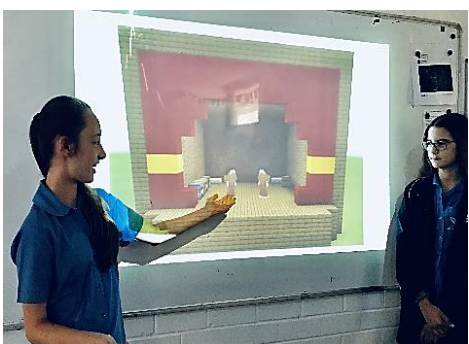
Kien Dang: *"Minecraft helped us to complete the task by allowing us to be as creative as we want. Working with a partner made this project easier. We would bounce ideas off each other to make the build better."*

Kate Rossi: *"We selected the 'bunker scene' in Hitler's Daughter because we thought it was interesting. It was a moment when Heidi was able to be close to the action. It was also a big moment for her character to reflect on what was going on in the world."*

Zac Vieltstra: *"I really enjoyed using Minecraft because it uses your imagination and problem-solving skills. It's also great because it's a well-loved game being used for educational purposes."*

Bellana Fletcher Darragh: "We selected the 'Mark and Dad' scene because the conversation they had was interesting and important. Instead of using Minecraft, we created a 3D model to help us complete the task. We physically designed it and arranged where certain things went. I found it more enjoyable and easier to work with my friends than just on my own. Also, my friend is really good at making models like this so it was easier."

Jaya Harris: "We chose the scene where the bomb is dropped near Heidi and a Nazi soldier. We were able to finish the theatre rather quickly as both of us had already used and played Minecraft before. I didn't mind using Minecraft for this task although there were a few problems at the beginning."



8EE students presenting their stage ideas using Minecraft.

Ms M Holliday English Teacher

Great traditions, a confident future.



Professional Experience



Term 4 has seen the reintroduction of UOW Professional Experience Students to our school, after their initial practicums were scuttled in June.

This continues Keira's long association with the University, which has seen countless trainee teachers grow their skill set in our classrooms, corridors and playgrounds.

The English Faculty has welcomed Toni Porter, while in Creative and Performing Arts, Lucy Crighton has been honing her music skills.

Toni said, "I wish we could do more Professional Experience because it is invaluable. Theory is important but nothing compares to first-hand experience and that is the case with any workplace. The staff at Keira are grounded, honest and welcoming. I am very fortunate to have Keira as my PEX school."

In CAPA, Lucy has enjoyed the opportunity to utilise our wonderful music labs to build her teaching skills.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the environment the school has provided. The students have been welcoming and always enthusiastic to get involved in activities. Year 7 have enjoyed exploring the music of film and Year 9/10 have been learning about technology in music. They have composed electronic songs of their own, which for me who is classically trained, that process has been new and exciting."

Masters of Education students complete two 3-week experiences and one 5-week experience across the two years of their post-graduate studies.



Toni



Lucy

Mr D Goodley Teacher English

Great traditions, a confident future.





Year 11 Physics – Breakfast with an Astronaut

Recently our Year 11 Physics class had the privilege of participating in a Zoom link with astronaut and medical physician Dr Serena Aunon-Chancellor. This was made possible through the Centre for Medical Radiation Physics at the University of Wollongong, whose researchers invited schools in the Illawarra to join in. The students thoroughly enjoyed the seminar and gained valuable insights into the life and career of an incredibly accomplished scientist. We would like to extend our thanks to Professor Anatoly Rozenfeld at UoW for providing this opportunity for our students.

"I found the experiments they conduct in space interesting, such as the concrete and porosity to help design some form of foundation specifically for space environment as our steps towards being an interplanetary colonization. The plants growing in spirals was interesting - how they need gravity and wind to grow straight properly". - Jovan Paopang

"The Astronaut talk was very interesting as we got an idea of why the international space station operates. It was great to learn that they are not just having a fun time up there and some developments are being made in technology and understanding. Therefore, the most interesting part was learning that there are many different things they investigate on the ISS, things that impact at least one person on Earth somewhere." - Daniel Milling

"I found it's interesting that they are starting to miss the air and grass smell and got jealous of people on earth. Typically, this seemed a sign of staying in space for too long". - Kyle Cuttill

"I have always been interested in space and astronomy so being able to hear an astronaut's experience first-hand was enjoyable and not something I have heard before. Usually it is information from astronomers not from an astronaut. It was also interesting that the space agencies have these goals that need people our age to help solve problems to achieve these goals. It was also interesting to learn about the experiments they perform to see how they differ from doing the same experiment on Earth." - Tim Barnes

"Listening to an astronaut who lived and worked in space was really incredible, and having our questions answered about our curiosities was quite fun. The issue of constructing a moon base involving the process of air and concrete was something I never expected, but listening to the research she's done and in other fields, it's interesting how these things we take for granted on Earth are useless when in space, and how we have to rethink how to do things. She also answered a question about plant growth in space, how gravity tells the plant which way to grow and without that they grow in spirals. I find these things fascinating as if we ever find life on other planets it's interesting how they will grow under different gravity conditions." - Taylor Hughes

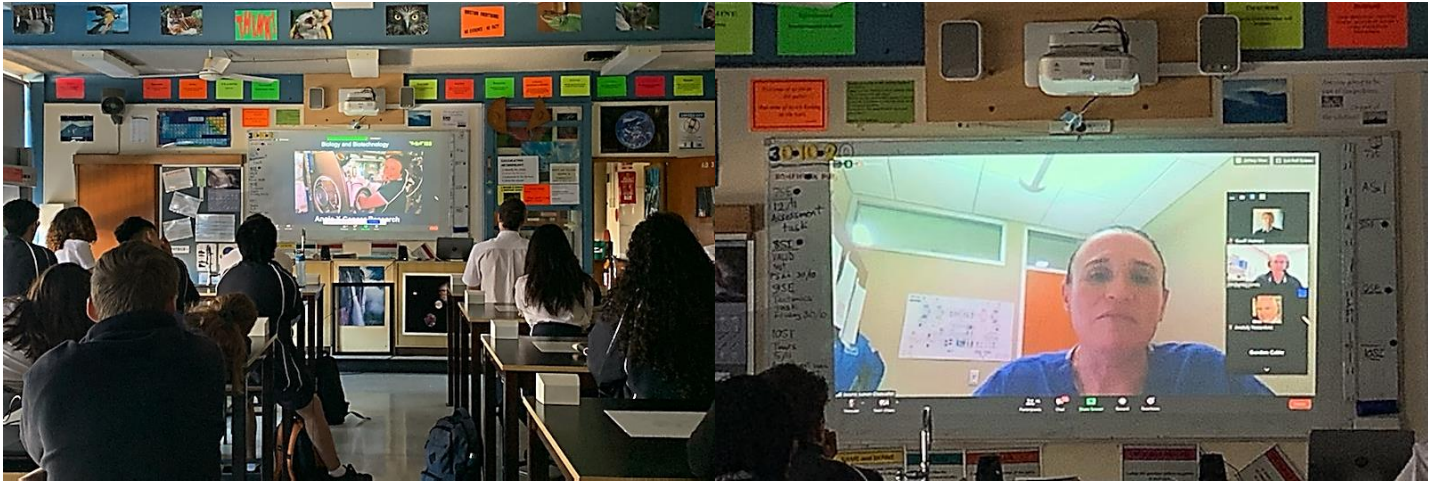
"I really enjoyed the talk, it was super interesting hearing about just, how much research can be done in space and how different it actually is. When she talked about how cells form differently and are able to grow on a 3D plane allowing a lot of new insights was possibly one of the most interesting things, as well as how concrete actually forms with varying integrity in lower gravity which may compromise building structures on non-Earth planets. Also, just hearing about living on the ISS was cool." – Jasmine Polkinghorne

"In class we have had the opportunity to watch to watch a live discussion via Zoom with astronaut Serena Aunon-Chancellor. As a NASA astronaut and engineer she visited the International Space Station, she performed various experiments in the absence of gravity, one of the experiments she talked about was growing plants. The plants, due to the absence of force pulling them towards a middle point, didn't have a specific direction in which they grew and roots curved in a different pattern than they would have on Earth. The meeting was really interesting, getting direct information from a NASA astronaut, being able to ask questions and interact with the actual discussion." – Francesco Insalata

"The talk with the astronaut was interesting because I never really knew or thought of the works happening up in the International Space Station. I don't have a lot of knowledge regarding space, so it was really eye-opening to know the work astronauts do up there. One thing that interested me was the growth of cells and crystalline structures which are bigger, bolder and much more prominent than the ones grown in Earth's

atmosphere and gravity. The lack of gravity in space made the structures easier to identify, and it was really fascinating and remarkable to learn that such thing is possible and exists. It was also worrying that being up there in a space station with a couple people whom you work with and having to spend months - maybe even years - together has an impact on astronauts' mental health and wellbeing. But it is relieving to know that it does make people miss home on Earth where they could touch, smell and hear things that only exists on Earth. It makes the journey back home more significant and worthwhile.” - Punnaadhorn Noradechununt

There has been so much happening in Science over the past semester that we thought photos might tell the stories best.



Year 12 Biology Dissection – kidneys, eyes and brains



Year 9 and 10 STEM – Bionic hands and energy-efficient pulley systems



Year 7 Body System Models



Year 11 Biology DNA Models



Year 10 Global Change

Mr Olsen's Science class investigated global issues in science recently, and the influence of ethical, moral and cultural frameworks on scientific thinking. Students were asked to describe a world in which pressing scientific and social issues were addressed equitably and responsibly.

My World

"Democracy is the worst form of government, except all the others that have been tried" – Winston Churchill

But what if we did not have a government? What if we did not have money? What if we had a world where people were able to make their own decisions? Face their own consequences. Not superficial consequences created by people who value wealth, power, and prestige over the state of our planet, our people, and our lives.

No money. No greed. No power. No war. No misery.

People will not be told what to do. Instead of being forced to conform to society, ideas will be acknowledged and respected, rather than demonized. Beliefs and opinions will not be restrained to the limits of leadership. Rather, everyone will have freedom to believe, and all life will be recognized in making world decisions.

Where the leaders of countries do not have a detrimental superiority complex that is destroying lives and creating more problems rather than fixing them.

Conflict will be non-existent. Instead of fighting, war, and abuse, arguments will be resolved in a civilised manner. With conversations as opposed to guns and knives. With society progressing past the ideology of power, money, and greed means success, and appreciating life as equal. With the concept of blame abolished, and people admitting their mistakes and making conscious efforts to change and better themselves.

Where people do not have to flee their countries due to war yet get turned away from safety because those countries are "too full".

Where there are more trees than guns. More bees than tanks. More clean air than pollution. Where the health of our planet is valued more than the military.

With the media reporting on all viewpoints of ideas, as opposed to the wealthy, power-hungry individuals who broadcast propaganda and concepts created to expand their already damaging empire. A world without people constantly being exposed to advertisements of trends and unsustainable products that provide superficial happiness for a momentary period of time, then acting as an addictive drug that people unintentionally take.

Without currency that causes greed. Where you share items and food, rather than hoard and steal. Where the manufacturing of products is limited and sustainable. With the production of plastic, rubber, or silicon is absent. Where we share commodities that we have no use for anymore, rather than throwing them away.

Allowing children to learn and study what they believe and want. Instead of damaging young minds by forcing them through a nefarious school system that punishes children if they voice their opinions, allow children to learn what they wish, with non-biased guidance and respect.

With young girls being told they do not need to look or act a certain way. That physical beauty is a fabricated concept designed to prey on your insecurities so you will buy harmful products that are advertised to 'change' you. Or young boys being told they do not need to hide their emotions. That you can reach out and get help, and still be considered 'masculine'. Where compliments are more prominent than insults.

A world where your social rights are not determined by the colour of your skin, or your gender, or your sexual preference. Where police do not target you because you look different. Where you are not rejected by your friends and family because of who you love. Where people are not afraid of change or difference, and rather, embrace it.

Where we do not farm and slaughter billions of animals every year for food, or force animals to live in captivity for our 'enjoyment'. Where our actions do not cause polar bears to drown, or fish to suffocate in their own habitat. Where we do not go out looking to kill so we can put a head of a wholesome creature on a wall. Alternatively, let animals live their lives, and not look to harm, eat, or abuse creatures that do not do the same to us.

Let us build cities, towns, and urban areas up rather than deforesting more land for farmlands and houses. Let us reforest abandoned cities, and turn roads into grasslands, houses into rainforests, and pools into lakes.

But if all of that is not attainable, what I want more than anything in the world, is for everyone to just be happy.

And on that note, all in the Science Faculty would like to thank the Keira community for your support this year as we guide our students on their journey to becoming well informed, responsible, empathetic global citizens.

May the holiday season bring health and happiness as we look forward to a positive 2021

Dr S McKenzie
Head Teacher Science

News from Mathematics

During 2020, the Mathematics faculty's goal was to develop a thorough understanding of teaching literacy and strengthen skill sets in the development of appropriate differentiated literacy strategies for all students. Literacy skills are fundamental to identifying patterns and relationships. Students make sense of their world by making connections and generalisations about what they experience around them. For example, they often notice that there is more than one way to describe and illustrate the relationship between data groups. At Keira High School, we encourage students to strengthen their literacy skill sets. We frequently ask students to explain, justify and show their understanding using written statements, paragraphs and diagrams in their learning portfolios and summary booklets.

Year 7

The students in Year 7 have been busy exploring the many geometric properties of shapes and calculating Perimeter and Area using these shapes. They have drawn heavily from their prior knowledge developed during Stage 3 across our fabulous Community of Schools to demonstrate a sound understanding of the language required in these topics.



In Properties of Geometrical Figures, students categorised quadrilaterals where the form was not the traditional form of that shape. This skill required students to justify their categorisation using mathematical vocabulary and forced them to make their definitions of these shapes more precise and forged stronger connections between terminology and representations. It was fantastic to see students engage with technology during a lesson using Desmos software, where they were able to communicate the differences between different quadrilaterals with clear, reasoned explanations.

Students enhanced their effective communication skills in *Think, Pair and Share* activities to mind map the meaning of composite shapes, identifying the difference in meaning between Perimeter and Area. They further developed their communication of mathematics terminology via a game of mathematical Taboo, where they had to describe different maths terms to another student without using any of those words.

In Length and Area, students provided solutions to Composite Area problems for the class to look at and question. This allowed students to communicate their reasoning for a particular way of solving the problem and led to opportunities for students to show a variety of alternate solutions. By providing these, students developed key skills in Mathematical Literacy, their ability to communicate with mathematical terminology, translate their thoughts into mathematical reasoning and understand and correctly use notation.

An essential skill in mathematical literacy is learning how to translate *spoken English* into *written English statements*, *written mathematics statements* *diagrammatic mathematics*. Teachers explicitly taught the difference between these text types and how to move fluently between them. For example, students would call a shape a diamond in spoken English, which would translate to a rhombus in written maths and learn how to represent its features in diagrammatic maths.

Year 8

Students have investigated the concepts of Rates and Ratio, Area, Volume and Circles in Year 8 Mathematics. Usually, questions are more than one sentence with a diagram and problem-focused, involving reading, comprehension and visual literacy skills.

Throughout the topic of Rates and Ratio, the use of language was important when interpreting travel graphs. In groups of two or three students, they matched graphs to a story and wrote reasons to support their decisions. Throughout this activity, students articulated their reasoning, justified their choices mathematically, and questioned the choices put forward by others. Strategies of close reading and visual representations assisted students in decoding mathematical worded



problems. By identifying and discussing essential information in the problem, students built connections between words, concepts and visual representations.

Similarly, the use of language was important when identifying parts of the circle. Students developed their literacy skills by connecting terminology to a circle diagram and testing their understanding through problem-solving questions. Visual literacy was of particular importance when identifying different fractions of the circle in order to calculate circumference and area of sectors. The focus in this unit of study directed students on how to break down the question and identify key words to assist in the selection of correct formulas and processes. Success in this activity was in conjunction with the creation and interpretation of diagrams.

Literacy skills are a central concept in all mathematics content areas. Some classes have focused on creating summary books, while others have utilised reflection journals on their learning. Students were encouraged to write a paragraph after each topic, using a scaffold to assist with their draft structure. They then edited their writing for spelling, punctuation, grammar and coherency. A peer read their piece, and when their suggestions were complete, students rewrote their paragraph as a final piece of writing.

Year 9

During the semester, Year 9 have been focusing on literacy throughout the Linear Relationships and Single Variable Data Analysis topics.

In Linear Relationships, students learnt how to articulate reasons why specific equations are represented by particular movement on a graph. Students used a scaffold that helped them to choose key words to describe relationships and their effect on a physical graph. They were then able to use these as guides to communicate the relationships and changes on graphs with more complex movements. This process allowed students to understand and practise how to communicate formal reasoning and justification of mathematical relationships.

The students of Year 9 have relished the move to statistics and have begun exploring the different concepts in this topic. In the topic of Single Variable Data Analysis, the use of language is very important. As an introduction, students had to complete a word bank with the topic definitions. They subsequently had to complete a puzzle where these definitions matched with the correct description. Students completed a task identifying categorical and continuous data to further their understanding of classifying data. When introduced to drawing the graphs associated with data, the students had to annotate histograms and polygons with the appropriate terms to describe how to draw the graphs correctly.

Throughout the topic of Single Variable Data Analysis, the use of language was important when interpreting the central tendency of data. As an introductory activity, students participated in a collective brainstorm to investigate how we analyse data. They made a glossary of synonyms for key terms such as mean (average), mode (most) and median (middle). Throughout this activity, students produced extensive summary notes to articulate this reasoning, justify decisions mathematically, and question the suggestions put forward by others.



A recent and pleasing development was when students engaged in technology activities using Desmos software. It was wonderful to see students give reasons for multiple possibilities for graphs so we could consider the difference between bimodal and unimodal data. Achieving clarity with reasoning is essential, and part of the vital role literacy plays.

Near the end of Term 3, some students participated in an enrichment problem known as *Einstein's Riddle*, challenging their understanding of visual literacy. It put their problem-solving skills to the test as they constructed a table from a list of clues, inferred the position of information, and worked to solve the mystery of *Who stole the fish?* Students involved in the activity furthered their skills in working with tables as a tool for solving logic problems.

Year 10

Literacy was a massive component of the Bivariate Data Analysis topic studied in Term 3, as students needed to write paragraphs that discussed trends, made predictions and articulate reasons for why these conclusions can be made from given data sets. The use of language is essential when interpreting relationships between two varying quantities. Students considered the strength and direction of this relationship using scatterplot graphs. They wrote a conclusion, developing their literacy skills to articulate their reasoning, justify their decisions mathematically, and question the suggestions put forward by others.

The student's formal assessment task for Term 3 focused on their ability to collect the data themselves, create a suitable graph and then write a report of at least 100 words. To prepare students for this section of the task, they used a sample data set and a scaffold to ensure they addressed all components of the report. Once completing the scaffold, they checked for correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, then asked a friend check for this and clarity. Finally, they used the paragraphs from their scaffold to complete their report. This process allowed the students to know the process and best practice for completing their assessment task independently.

Accompanying this recording and displaying of data, students had to compose a summary paragraph to communicate their reasoning and justify their conclusion. To achieve the highest grades, students had to discuss interpolation and extrapolation and how this impacted their findings. Scaffolded activities initially identified key metalanguage that was required and demonstrated an appropriate structure for responding to questions. Gradually removing the scaffold for subsequent questions, students developed more confidence with their use of metalanguage and the structure of their responses.



News from Human Society and its Environment

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Year 9 were busy in Geography designing an innovative development imagining tomorrow. They worked hard putting their geographical skills into practice producing creative maps showcasing our future cities.

'This term our class 9HSE have been spending time designing and developing our hypothetical urban design. We have spent the past few lessons thinking about what urban features to include in our design to ensure the area can sustain at least 100,000 people. Along with designing the urban village we must complete a booklet that scaffolds our choices in designing the urban city. This booklet helped us create our choice of a presentation (online or in class) pitching our development proposal explaining why our city would be the most suitable and sustainable for everyone.' Rogan Hampton and Jordan Wakeford



Mrs Andrievski
HSIE Teacher

Commerce corner

The end of year for Commerce is fast approaching and it has been a busy time as students have sat their final exams, and we have seen some fantastic results and student development over the course of the year.

In our last Commerce update we had students entering the ASX share market game which involved students across the country vying for the honour (and prizes) of Australia's most astute student investor. We did have some amazing results with one student finishing in 61st place in New South Wales from nearly 6000 entrants and most students recording a profit on their investment.

Moving forward for the rest of the term students will be participating in a range of practical and real-life learning activities in the Towards Independence Unit where students learn about issues that may affect young people when they leave home. These include:

- Independent living
- Organising car insurance and home insurance
- Rental agency agreements/leasing property
- Home insurance
- Arranging accommodation
- Managing personal finances/budgeting
- Accessing community services



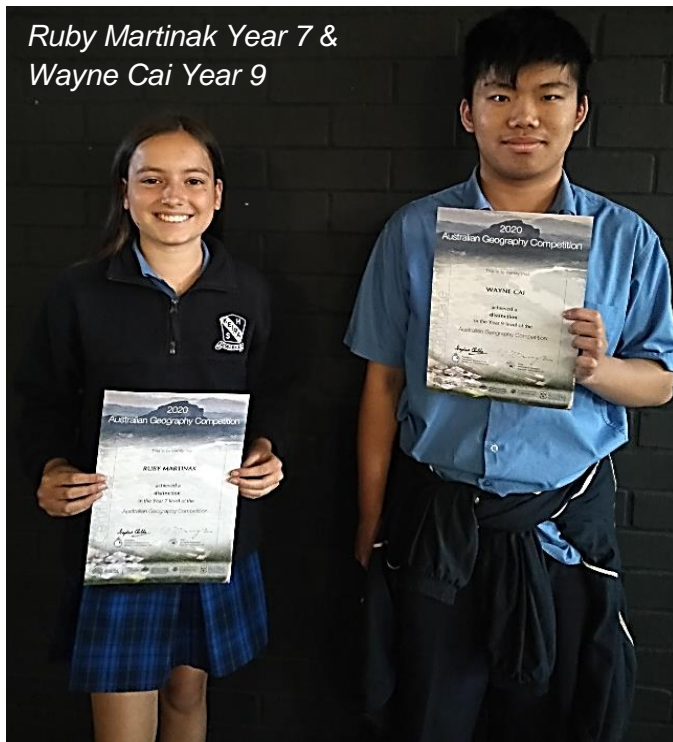
From the Commerce team, have a safe and relaxing break over the school holidays.

Mr G Mihail
Commerce Teacher

Australian Geography Competition at Keira High School

Earlier this year fourteen students from Years 7, 9 and 10 participated in the Australian Geography Competition which provides an interesting and challenging competition for students based on the Australian Geography curriculum. Our students did extremely well in this competition with one student; Isabella Mitev from Year 10 receiving a credit and two students; Wayne Cai from Year 9 and Ruby Martinak from Year 7 receiving distinctions. This competition runs annually and students who missed out this year are encouraged to participate next year.

Our Distinction Winners!



Some of the students who participated

Back row from left; Mohammad Adil (Yr10), Aeman Alsade (Year 9), Wayne Cai (Year 9), Jack Rouse, (Year 10)

Front row from left; Isabella Mitev (Year9), Lilian Suri (Year 9), Ruby Martinak (Year 7) and Shilah Tomsene (Year7)



LANDSCAPES AND LANDFORMS

In Year 7 Geography students explore landscapes and landforms using examples from Australia and throughout the world. They explain the processes that create landscapes and shape individual landforms and they describe the value of landscapes and landforms to different people.

This year students designed a poster that looked at a landform or landscape from around the world. They researched the geomorphic processes that formed the landscape and the threats to its existence. They also looked at the cultural and economic impact the landform has on society and how the landform is being maintained and protected. This topic is an important part of their study of Geography as it alerts students to the threats that our environment faces.



Cohen Biela (7S), Amelie Gillen (7K) and Isabella Gajda (7S)

Ms C Ramos Relieving Head Teacher HSIE

Great traditions, a confident future.



Cross Country 2020

This year Keira High School's annual cross country was held over two weeks on a course which was run around the school grounds. Students in Years 7 and 8 completed three laps of the course on Wednesday 18 November and Years 9, 10 and 12 completed the four laps of the course on Wednesday 25 November. It was a change this from the usual coastal course however it still allowed all students to still compete against other for the cross-country house and age championship. The weather was excellent on both days and a big congratulations to all age champions and competitors for another successful cross country in 2020. Thank you to all staff especially the PDHPE faculty for assisting in the organisation of this fantastic event.



Stay up to date: South Coast School Sport Trials

There are a wide variety of representative sporting pathways for students at Keira High School. It is important that students stay up to date with the south coast school sport calendar so they know when representative sporting trials are coming up.

1. Go the following link <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/SouthCoast>
2. Click on the calendar tab on the right hand side of the page.
3. Download the nomination form for your specific trial and return to Mr Walker Sports Coordinator.
4. Once you have returned your nomination you will receive a permission note to attend the trial.

The following sports still have trials for the remainder of this term

- Girls Cricket
- Girls and Boys Softball
- Boys Baseball

Any further questions please see Mr Walker Sports Coordinator.



Making connections with our Mental Health and Physical Activity

Looking after your mental health is as important as looking after your physical health.

Below are some online links to support student's mental wellbeing.

- [Kids Helpline External link](#) – Life throws us curve balls every day. **Kids Helpline** has lots of information to help you manage the tricky times, or connect with someone to get advice.

- [ReachOut: Stress External link](#) – We all experience stress from time to time. To help you manage stressful situations and get back a sense of control, check out these helpful strategies from **ReachOut**
- [ReachOut: Mental fitness External link](#) – Mental fitness is just like physical fitness - we have to work at it. **ReachOut** can show you a number of ways to look after your mental fitness.

How can I help a friend?

- [headspace: How to help a friend going through a tough time External link](#) – Knowing what to say or do when a friend is having a tough time can be hard. Check out **headspace** for tips on what to do, even if your friend is pushing you away.
- [ReachOut: How to ask a friend if they're okay External link](#) – Not sure how to ask if your friend's OK? Here's some helpful tips from **ReachOut** on how to start the conversation.
- [Beyond Blue: The Check-in App External link](#) – **Beyond Blue's** Check-in app guides you through four steps to helping a friend. It can also link you up with online and phone services - all on your mobile.

Mr O Walker
PDHPE Teacher
Sports Coordinator

School Sport Reflection Learn to Surf



Learning to surf is an indispensable activity. You get to learn safety skills, such as how to tell where rips and currents are located. The people associated with the Pines Surf School guide us through the activities. Our helpers have a lot of experience and are very funny. Learning to surf has a lot of laughs and you get to meet new people which is always fantastic. The fun I have had this year is great. I would recommend this activity to anyone, it's so much fun.



Delmyr-Gee Crockford
Year 7 Surfer

Touch Football League Competition

On Tuesday November 17, students from Year 9 and 10 travelled to Flinders Reserve to participate in the Mixed Touch League Competition, hosted by the NRL.

Students were split into two teams, in which both teams managed to play 4 games against a range of schools from the Illawarra region. The rules were modified to add a fast paced element to the game, and restrictions to 6 players aside ensured that student fitness was put to the test.

Both teams managed to score multiple tries, and display elements of creativity and flare that had the crowd on their feet with applause. Both teams were unfortunately knocked out before the final, in which the day concluded.

Notable mentions to Johnny Sara for his impressive kicking game, Molly Rigby for her persistent efforts in defence and Kaylee Reid O'Brien for her ability to support the team and bring positive energy to each game.



Mr B Thompson
PDHPE Teacher

News from Personalised Learning and Engagement

NAPLAN ONLINE

School Readiness Testing

This term all Year 7 and 9 students participated in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Tests. These tests were carried out across week 4.

The aim of the School Readiness Testing process is to identify challenges in delivery and technologically resourcing of the NAPLAN Online tests. This is particularly important for Keira High School as we plan to have all NAPLAN tests delivered through the online program from 2021.

Due to all official NAPLAN testing being cancelled this year in the context of Covid-19, this process provided additional benefit to the students in developing their skills to engage in online testing for use in future testing situations.

We thank all Year 7 and 9 students for their involvement in this important process.

Ms L Crockford
Relieving Head Teacher Learning and Engagement



News from Special Education

Finishing Strongly

Our students have been working diligently as 2020 looms to a close. The new year will no doubt bring some new challenges, however, I am confident that our students will continue to rise up to the challenge and thrive to the best of their abilities.

Informed and Active Citizens

EDUCATION WEEK 2020

Jaydon Donnelly, Blake Foye and Angus Paddon wait for Mr Robson to seek feedback from about their Captain's Speech.



Our future leaders Jaydon Donnelly, Blake Foye and Angus Paddon welcome our Director Educational Leadership Dr M Turner and Mr M Barraket Executive Director, NSW Department of Education. Acting Principal Mr T Loades and our Principal Mr D Robson ask questions about their experience while going through the process of developing their speeches for School Captancy.



NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS



Our Special Education staff and students come together to recite the poem Bees to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Colby Thompson leads Jade and Kai to develop their own characters while exploring Picture Books

Partnerships for success: Year 6 to 7 Transition



Mr Siag supports the students with their learning.

Justin Raso, Zoran Petkovic and Kayne Vaartjes develop ideas during English to help the year 6 students transitioning into Year 7.



Kayler Skinner leads a customised transition tour for her sibling Brodie Skinner. Jessica Skinner enjoys seeing her sister take on the responsibility to communicate with their mother and siblings.

Parent Student Teacher
Partnerships for Success

REMEMBRANCE DAY



Justin Raso, Oliver Fornasari-King and Kayne Vaartjes learn about the impact of war, our fallen heroes and the National Register of War Memorials. On the right, Latiyah shows her successful attempt in cooking deliciously tasty Anzac cookies. They were so tasty that she failed to share them with Mr Guevara.



Mr Guevara
Head Teacher Special Education

Great traditions, a confident future.



News from Languages

As 2020 draws to close we celebrate the deep learning that all our Japanese students have accessed this year. Our Year 8 cohort have continued to be challenged by completing all their written work in hiragana (one of the Japanese alphabets) as this has become an integral part of the new curriculum. Year 8 students have been studying yokai, mythical creatures of Japan and their deep connection with Japanese myths and religions. We had the opportunity to link with Aboriginal studies this NAIDOC week and compare the similarities between Shintoism and the Aboriginal Dreamtime stories. They both have a strong connection to land and nature as a core of their spiritual belief. We discussed and compared the creation stories of Uluru and Mt. Fuji, strengthening students understanding of both perspectives.

Following is an example of a description of Zac Vlietstra in year 8 describing a creature he researched during our topic of monsters and body parts.

おに



おには 怖い です。
つのが はいい ろ です。
うで が あかい です。
からだ が おおき い です。
ゆび が ながい です。

めが きいろ です。
てが あかい です。
かみが ながい です。
はが するどい です。
みみが せん けい です。

Year 8 have also completed their final tasks, including researching a potential trip to Japan. Jessie Smith completed an outstanding assessment with detailed description of her travel plans.

かようび ~ いち

ごぜん じゅうじ に はくふつかん に
いきます。ばす で いきます。
かいもの を します。たのしい です。

ごご じゅうにじ に ひるごはん を たべ
ます。あるいて つけめんてつみたか の
れすとらん に いきます。かれ- らいす
を たべます。おいしい です。

ごご にじはん に ねこ かふえ に いき
ます。たくしい で いきます。ねこ を
みます。かわいい です。



The languages faculty looks forward to welcoming our largest cohort of students studying Japanese next year from Years 8 to 10.

Ms P Havilah
Head Teacher Languages



News from English as an Additional Language Dialect

School-based Traineeships for Year 10 Students

In Term 3 the EAL/D team worked with nine Year 10 EAL/D students to apply for Wollongong City Council School-based Traineeships. All our students were successful in the first round of selections and attended online interviews with council workers. Our students worked hard to prepare for their interviews, composing and rehearsing answers to many potential interview questions. Thank you to Mr Max Crawford for his role as the interviewer in our group practice sessions. All the students are to be congratulated for their dedication to their applications. Well done Law Meh, Beh Meh, Jae Mae, Rawan Sawaha, April Htan, Mor Reh and Fersan Mirrar. Following the interviews, two students attained two-year traineeships with the council: Muhammad Ali Abdul Rahim and Dar Wi.

"I am starting a traineeship with the council and I am looking forward to working in the leisure centre. I think this is an amazing opportunity which will help me get into the workplace." Muhammad Ali

"I will be starting the outdoor spaces traineeship next month. When I found out that I was successful, I was very excited because it is a big opportunity for me. This traineeship will help me complete one of my HSC subjects." Dar Wi



I would like to extend an enormous congratulations to Muhammad Ali and Dar Wi and a special thank you to Ms Tanya Allen for her invaluable support to our students during the application, interview and contract signing processes.

Ms B Robson
EAL/D Teacher

Illawarra Multicultural Youth Conference

On Friday 20 November Stage 5 EALD students represented Keira High School at the 15th Annual Illawarra Multicultural Youth Conference. The COVID19 pandemic saw a reworking of the day into an online event broadcast out to four schools from Wollongong Youth Centre with a specific focus around emotional wellbeing and resilience.

The conference, led and facilitated by MMCI, aims to empower young people who have been in Australia for less than five years, make informed and positive life choices. Students met with local service providers who delivered activities to promote healthy lives and emotional well-being. This year Wollongong City Council, Head Space and STARTTS provided students with information and knowledge that they may have missed out on due to their settlement journey.

Feedback from students:

I found it was engaging and valuable hearing words and stories from other non-domestic students. Also, the activities and positive messages was an admirable picture. To see everyone, smile and get to know more about each other. Fay Napawan Year 9.

I really liked the Multicultural Youth Conference. There were a lot of activities involved and I get to see a lot of similar faces. I also enjoyed the video that was played from each school because I get to know a little bit about the person from other schools even though I don't even know them. Dar Wi Year 10

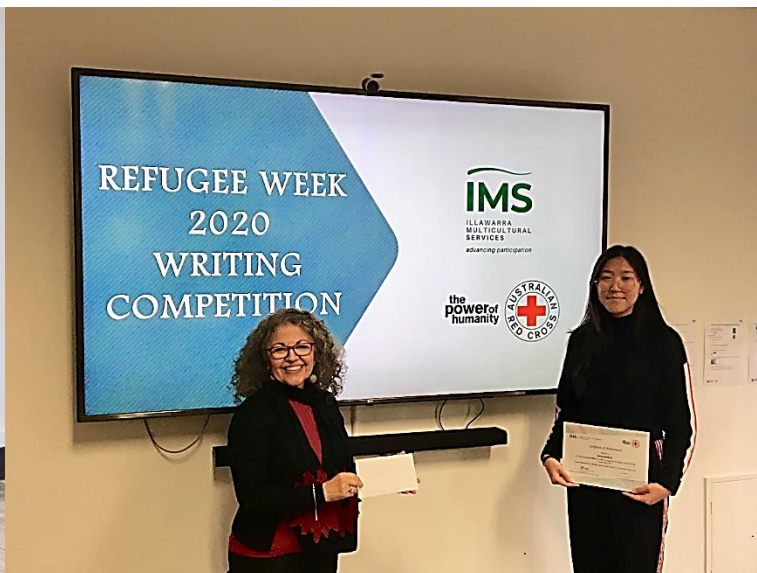
Collage of students enjoying the Conference



Student Writing Success

Over the last twelve months, Keira High students have explored their unique stories and perspectives by participating in the Illawarra Migrant Service's Writing Competitions. The challenge of writing creatively poses an additional challenge when English is your second, third or even fourth language and we would like to congratulate all students on their work. To add to our success at both competitions, the works of Meilu Lui and Amani Alarnout were shortlisted and published in the IMS Annual Report.

Adolphine Jacques
IMS Writing
Competition Award



Misheel Munkh-Od being awarded second place in the 2020 IMS Writing Competition. The theme was Isolation /Love in the Time of Corona/Social Media and Human Connection

Amani & Meilu's work from the IMS Annual Report.

GLAD OF YOUR CULTURE
Amani Alarnout

The look in their eyes
like questions unanswered about why I was born in this life

The bad words
like a vulture picking at my heart

Judging my clothes
like a snake with a forked tongue

Prayers from my heart smashed
like my dreams of my homeland

Looking at my scarf
as a blanket that covers my brain's thinking

Language barriers of their eyes
like an owl in a very dark night

Stand against this racism
like a lion and be delighted with yourself

Love the old family, teacher and friend
Love the old street, shop and home
What words can express my releasing heart?
What experience can replace the worm down in my heart?

Yes, they've been hurting me
But the time will stop
When I'm chasing it fast
Making me forget the sweet dreams I had

In this new result a new chapter
At the sacrifice of fairyland
Get a chance to go to work
No matter what as just as tough

Like a boxer preparing for the next competition season
Or like a bird in the cage.
Excuse once gave me an optical illusion
Makes me do everything spontaneously

I wish that every day will make me hopeful
Blooming flowers may take my nostalgia.
In the future I look in the mirror
Everything will be just fine

Do you ever have an aspiration
when you're in the darkness?
It will become a lamp
It will give you brightness

The illumination becomes part of you
Sadness around you
You don't need to find the sunlight
You already have it

Love the new school, teacher and friend
Love the new street, shop and home
I have the blooming flowers
Exciting me with my exotic thoughts.

Love the Old Family
By Meilu Lui

Ms L Varga EAL/D Teacher

Writing Competition

In recognition of *International Day of Human Rights and The International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women*, Illawarra Multicultural Services IMS launched the Women's Writing Competition 2020.

All women (aged 12+) from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds are invited to express their views on issues affecting their livelihood directly or indirectly.

The theme of the writing competition is Women in Culturally Diverse Communities. This theme would mean different things to different people, pushing towards the recognition of the diverse experiences of participants.

This year Meilu Liu Yr 11 and Fay Napawan Yr9 were successful in winning first place in their age categories. We would like to congratulate both students on their tremendous effort.

IMS ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
advancing participation

Certificate of Achievement
Women's Writing Competition 2020

Awarded to
Meilu Liu
for achieving first place in the 19+ years-old category.
Congratulations from Illawarra Multicultural Services.

Raquel Aldarate
Raquel Aldarate
Illawarra Multicultural Services (IMS)'s Chief Executive Officer

CONGRATULATIONS

IMS ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
advancing participation

Certificate of Achievement
Women's Writing Competition 2020

Awarded to
Vorrawan Napawan (Fay)
for achieving first place in the 12-18 years-old category.
Congratulations from Illawarra Multicultural Services.

Raquel Aldarate
Raquel Aldarate
Illawarra Multicultural Services (IMS)'s Chief Executive Officer

Prestigious Scholarship



Boe Meh Bird (Year 12) and Amani Alarnout (Year 10) have been awarded the prestigious Friends of Zainab Senior Secondary Scholarships. The Public Education Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing life changing scholarships to young people in public education. The scholarships acknowledge and reward academic excellence. The scholarships help students to cover the extra costs of schooling and provides them with the opportunities to pursue their aspirations.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication and diligence demonstrated by Boe and Amani. Congratulations! In 2021, Boe will study at University of Wollongong, and Amani moves into her Stage 6 studies at Keira High School.

COVID Warriors

Last August, Keira High School EALD students took part in a workshop with a clinical nurse and [Multicultural Health Education Officer](#) to learn how to stay safe in relation to COVID. Students then became ambassadors for their culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The success of the workshops, initiated by Multicultural Communities Council Illawarra (MCCI), led to Keira High students being involved in a film for Multicultural NSW to showcase the projects that responded to the challenges faced in 2020 – from bushfires to Covid-19!



Students: Noella Jacques, Mehmet Kapan, Jae Meh and Mor Reh



Music:



"On the First of November, Angus, Kye and myself performed at La La La's Wollongong, a new venue based in Globe Lane where our backing band for Indie/Alternative artist Aodhan played various Aodhan originals as well as well-known covers. The event created an opportunity for us to become more familiar with the music industry in terms of performing live and opened our eyes to the possibilities in the field of music and its significance within our community. Thank you to our amazing teachers who came to support us and helped create an ecstatic, engaging atmosphere at La La La's. Our band is now busy rehearsing for our next gig at the University of Wollongong Uni-Bar and next year's local Yours and Owls Festival!"

Sara Todner, Year 10 Music

Aodhan Gig @ La La La's



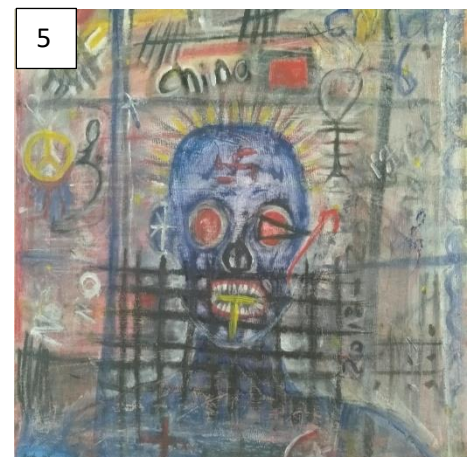
Visual Arts:

Culture and Identity in 9/10 Visual Arts

This Semester students have been researching the social and psychological effects of racism whilst following the 'Black Lives Matter' movement in America. Students looked at the American Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat for inspiration in guiding their artist practices. They also explored mark making through layering of text and images to convey their personal experiences of racism and perspectives on events that were happening around them. The artworks that were created utilised acrylic paints, oil pastels and markers on canvas and cardboard.

In the exploration of the theme of racism students chose to cover a range of experiences including being a refugee, displacement, racial prejudice, institutionalised police brutality and racism during Covid.

1. Tiba Khaleel 2. Lily Mazzini 3. Amani Alarnaout 4. Rawan Sawaha 5. Aya Khrait
6. Sura Shakarchi 7. Kayler Skinner 8. Renad Alfaraj 9. Sharnee Behr 10. Dakota Biermann





Culture and Identity

Ms I Thompson
Visual Arts Teacher

Drama:

Silent Film in 9/10 Drama

The Stage Five students have been working on developing their physical performance skills. This started with an intensive mime unit and culminates with the creation of a silent movie based on the work of Charlie Chaplin.

In the scenes below we see Fwangshak Dawurung and Tamioka Platt depicting a slapstick altercation.



In these scenes below we see Jessica Skinner, Jackson Wheeler and Tyson Guevara workshopping a classic scene of a woman being kidnapped by the villain and rescued by our hero.



Mr R Macken
English/Drama
Teacher

News from Technology and Applied Studies

During week 2 this term, Year 11 Hospitality students completed their mandatory work placement in a number of café and restaurants in the local area. The students gained valuable industry experience whilst putting their skills into practise outside of the classroom environment. The Hospitality students proudly represented the Keira High School community, receiving praise from the host employers. All students demonstrated maturity, resilience, and a great work ethic to make the commitment to actively engage in work placement. We would like to thank our local businesses for hosting our students and making their experience a positive one. They will now utilise their skills in the Keira Café.



Keira Café



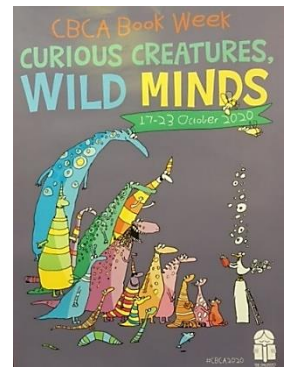
Mrs T Power
Relieving Head Teacher TAS

BOOK WEEK

Book Week was celebrated at Keira High during Term 4. As an annual event promoted by the Children's Book Council of Australia, Book Week provides a great opportunity to look at the latest Australian literature written for teens and young people, and to highlight the importance of reading. It also is an excellent time to learn about many of our Australian children's authors.

This year our students were treated to a virtual visit from award winning author, Tristan Banks, who entertained them with information about his books and gave them some great tips for writing. His visit was described as "awesome, informative, engaging and entertaining" by the students and staff. You can find out more about him here:

<https://www.tristanbanks.com>



Tristan Banks,
Award winning Children's Author



Year 7 Visual Arts students created a stunning display of lino cut prints to illustrate the theme of Book Week which was "CURIOUS CREATURES, WILD MINDS!"

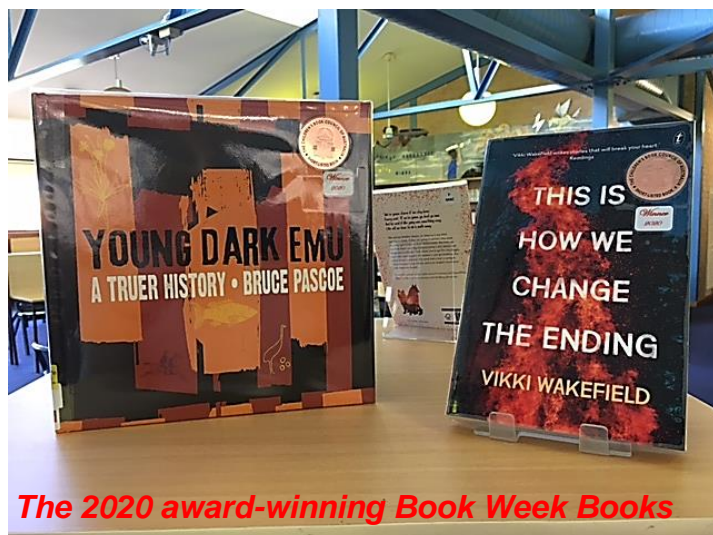


Year 7 Lino Cut Display



Artwork by Otis Armstrong, Year 7

The Learning Centre also featured a display of the award winning and short-listed books, ran competitions and sold origami bookmark creatures made by our library monitors.



With reading in the focus during Book Week, our students were reminded of the significant benefits that can be achieved by reading a good book. Reading builds vocabulary, develops knowledge, improves memory and concentration and develops understanding of the world and how people think. Skills such as analytical thinking and critical thinking are developed and writing skills are significantly enhanced. Reading is an excellent form of entertainment too.

During the school holidays students can download free eBooks to read from our school eLibrary: <https://keirahs.wheelers.co>

They can access their account with their school username and the password "Library1". For more information, see our website at: <https://sites.google.com/view/khslearningcentre>



DOWNLOAD THE ePlatform APP

SEARCH FOR THE Keira High School LIBRARY

USERNAME:
firstname.lastname
PASSWORD:
Library1

SEARCH or BROWSE, BORROW and READ!

How to access your account

Instructions for accessing the Keira High School eLibrary

Download the ePlatform App



**Ms J Kay & Ms J MacFarlane
Teacher Librarians**

Great traditions, a confident future.



News from Careers

It may only take one piece of news to lead a student towards success in their life's career.

Work Experience



Year 10 students have completed Work Readiness Training and have started to seek Work Experience opportunities with students attending receiving glowing reports from their employers.

Ms Ellem would like to thank Sean Hofman and his team from South Coast Floor Coverings for giving our students the opportunity for Work Experience. Ton Dee in Year 11 was the first to take up this valuable experience with such a dedicated and experienced team.

Many thanks and much appreciation to the many other dedicated and professional local businesses that have continued to support our students with valuable work

experience opportunities. Many students are now taking the opportunity to attend Work Experience nearing towards the end of 2020. A new Student Placement Record is now available with the additional section to cover COVID Safe Plans. Packs are available from the Careers Office for Year 10-12 students that wish to seek Work Experience opportunities.

Congratulations to the many Year 12 students that have successfully gained Early Entry to University and Private Provider courses but also to the many students that have successfully gained apprenticeships and employment. University of Wollongong Early Admission outcomes have particularly been pleasing with 49 students successfully being offered unconditional entry to at least one of their course preferences and another 17 students offered alternate pathway courses at the university. 3 students have also gained Early Admission to Charles Sturt University or the Australian National University. Ms Ellem continues to support Year 12 with applications and is positive to hear more success stories from this Year 12 cohort. Congratulations!

Ms Ellem would like to remind all students to regularly check emails, the school careers website (www.keirahighschoolcareers.com), Workplace Learning Facebook page and the careers google classrooms application news/updates and work vacancies/opportunities.

Emerging Occupations

The National Skills Commission (NSC) has developed a data-driven approach to identify emerging occupations within Australia. By identifying emerging skills and looking at how these skills change existing jobs, we are able to identify emerging or new jobs in the labour market.

New occupations often emerge as a result of the need to adapt and learn new skills. The current COVID-19 crisis has seen situations such as manufacturers having to learn new techniques to make unfamiliar, in demand products, and restaurant owners having to quickly develop or enhance their skills in e-commerce, for example.

The diagram below illustrates some emerging occupations. Students are encouraged to use keirahighschoolcareers.com.au to learn about these emerging occupations, needed skills and training opportunities.



Digital Deepening

- Digital Marketing Specialists
- Social Media Specialists
- User Experience Analysts



Data Analytics

- Data Analysts
- Data Scientists
- Data Engineers
- Data Architects
- Pricing Analysts



Emerging Business Practices

- Agile Coaches
- Devops Engineers
- Logistics Analysts



Regulatory

- Risk Analysts
- Regulatory Affairs Specialists
- Energy Auditors
- Compensation and Benefits Analysts



Health

- Respiratory Therapists
- Nurse Liaisons
- Biostatisticians



Sustainability Engineering and Trades

- Solar Installers
- Energy Efficiency Engineers
- Wind Turbine Technicians
- Hazardous Materials Labourers



Refreshing ANZSCO

- Fundraisers
- Researchers
- Research Assistants

Career News Subject

ENGLISH

The Live Sentence - A free webinar for budding writers

Wednesday November 11. 11.30am

1-1.5 hours, depending on audience questions

Great writing is made of lively, muscular sentences. But what are the elements of a good sentence, and how do they work?

Join critic, teacher and writer Tegan Bennett Daylight (lecturer) and novelist Charlotte Wood (writer in residence) for a discussion of how to improve your writing with energetic, fresh, engaging language.

This webinar is supported by the Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund as part of the Charlotte Wood's residency at the University of Notre Dame, Sydney.

<https://www.notredame.edu.au/events-items/the-live-sentence-a-free-webinar-for-writers>

University of Newcastle – HSC Help Seminars

From 2 to 10 November

Maths, English, Biology, Business Studies

In an effort to support HSC students with all of the difficulties and disruptions that have taken place in 2020, the University has partnered with InspirationED to deliver free HSC webinars for students.

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/events/future-students>

P.D.H.P.E.

Community and Family Studies, P.D.H.P.E.

Charles Sturt University Elite Athlete Program

Closing date: Ongoing, but if planning to study online, at least four weeks before the applicable session (except where the preferred course has an early closing date for applications*).

CSU's dedicated staff can support you while you study as part of the Elite Athlete Program. Many of our members can:

- study their course online
- get flexibility in their studies, sit exams elsewhere or get assignment extensions

- get subsidised on-campus accommodation support
- access tailored study plans and academic support
- use our gyms and sporting facilities
- apply for sports travel grants.

<https://study.csu.edu.au/study-options/access-and-entry-programs>

Application form is here:

https://cdn.csu.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/3240392/Elite-Athletes-SCA-Form.pdf

Sport & Business Experience Speaker Series 2020

19 November

Australia's reputation as a nation of sports lovers is well established, and what happens off the field is now almost as important (and controversial) as what happens on it. Legendary sports journalist Tim Gilbert will oversee a star-studded panel – our very own Craig Foster, Adjunct Professor of Sport & Social Responsibility at Torrens University, alongside his brilliant former SBS co-host Lucy Zelić once again. Also joining, the iconic Adam Goodes, former Australian Cricket Captain Michael Clarke, Paul Harragon, also known as 'The Chief', Caitlin Bassett, World Cup-winning captain of the Australian Diamonds netball team and Joel Thompson, Manly Sea Eagles player and founder of The Mindset Project.

Quite possibly the best sports panel you will see all year, so register your details to join what will be a fascinating debate.

<https://www.torrens.edu.au/speaker-series-2020-sport>

AFL Sportsready Webinar Series

AFL Sportsready are running a series of free webinars that focus on starting your career with a traineeship. This series is not only for young people. This is a great opportunity for career practitioners and parents to learn about the program and to discover that traineeships can lead to successful, meaningful, professional jobs – with great salaries and outstanding career prospects. Please feel free to bring to the attention of your members.

<https://aflsportsready.com.au/how-did-you-get-the-job-webinar-series/>

MATHS and SCIENCE

Senior Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Physics

STEM at University of Sydney

STEM courses open up a world of opportunity

As new fields of STEM employment continue to emerge, it's important for today's graduates to be agile and able to adapt their skills to this fast-changing global economy.

What can I do with a STEM degree?

The range of STEM careers is broad and diverse, from biomedical engineering and software development to psychology and accounting. USYD graduates are leading varied and fulfilling careers - they've been taught by Australia's first astronaut, an Antarctic explorer, a chief scientist and a Nobel laureate.

The future is looking bright for tech innovators and critical thinkers, and USYD degrees can help you get an edge over the competition.

USYD purpose-built labs, teaching and learning hubs are home to the latest technology and equipment, providing you with an engaging and hands-on educational experience. Find out more about the [Faculty of Science](#), [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#) and the [Faculty of Engineering and IT's](#) laboratories and facilities.

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/study/study-options/undergraduate-courses/study-stem.html>

Enter the world of Women in Engineering at the University of Sydney

Creating the perfect environment for STEM's future female leaders

More women than ever are choosing to study engineering and computing at the University of Sydney, and it's easy to see why. With scholarships for women, high school outreach programs by girls for girls, female student societies and high-calibre female lecturers and researchers, it's no wonder the proportion of undergraduate female students at the University of Sydney is double the national average.

<https://sydney.edu.au/engineering/study/why-study-here/women-in-engineering.html>

Hi Tech Start-ups in Lockdown

Friday 6 November 11am

Three high-tech start-ups will describe how the pandemic has impacted them – from disrupting development activities, imposing cash-flow problems, supply chain issues, disruption in their intended markets – to new opportunities that have arisen as a result of the pandemic. Katie from CSIRO's Lindfield Collaboration Hub will talk about how the pandemic has affected the hub as well as talking about some of the government initiatives and incentives that are being offered for advanced manufacturing to play a major part in recovery.

<https://events.csiro.au/Events/2020/October/8/Start-ups-in-Lockdown-AIP>

University of Sydney - [Grand Challenges: Diegetic Prototyping](#)

Tuesday 1 December

Year 9 & 10. Hoverboards, jet packs and sonic screwdrivers. Aligned to cross-curricular priorities and general capabilities. Students will spend a day learning about the real-life global challenges and how we can use fictional technology in movies and texts to inspire real-life solutions. Students can sign up as a class or as individuals.

University of Sydney - Current School Leavers - [University Bridging Courses Online](#)

January and February 2021

Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics Ext 1, Physics

These 5- to 7-day courses are ideal for students wanting to enter a University degree that requires assumed science knowledge that they did not complete in the HSC.

Please note: bridging courses do not satisfy the mathematics prerequisite. For relevant advice please see the heading 'What if I don't meet the maths prerequisite?'

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/students/bridging-courses.html?tc=edm|stud|mc-student|edu-staff-hss|%20|https://atar-search.sydney.edu.au/home>

CSU - New for 2021 – [Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management \(with specialisations\)](#)

CSU has combined three environmental science related courses into one – offering a three-year degree that's been designed in partnership with employers – giving you the ultimate skill set.

You'll get foundational knowledge of environmental science, job-ready skills, and an in-depth understanding of a specialisation that fires up your imagination.

Choose from one of the following specialisations: Applied Earth Science, Aquatic Ecosystems, Climate and Sustainability, Ecology and Conservation, or Parks, Recreation and Heritage.

Study either online or via blended learning (combining on-campus and online study) at Albury-Wodonga or Port Macquarie. You can also opt to fast-track your course, so if you choose to exit early, you receive a qualification after each completed year.

https://study.csu.edu.au/courses/environmental-outdoor/bachelor-environmental-science-management?cid=Marketo|fac|sci|oc|pros|F6507_BEnviroSciMgt|CTA&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRkbU4yRXdaakJtT0RSaSlInQiOilwd1orQk9DRkdWQnptV1g0WWFYdmNYTjJBsjYUG8wZ0xXcjVXRE5VTWg3WUUpUd2ZTQnJucEVHbUkwcUc4

[Rlk0UXJUZFhcl2RFN1pGZVJKbjBxbEw5VGI2K1dxNkc5RzJRVGc3XC9UUVZCZFVSbzVFY05NV0MrK01KTVBGOVMwcW1Vln0%3D](#)

Medical Interview Training Dr Ray Consultant Gastroenterologist 20 years' experience in this area.

MedEntry Medical Interview Strategy Day with Dr Ray. Learn the strategies needed to succeed in a daylong session with Dr Ray Boyapati, Consultant Gastroenterologist with 20 years' experience in medical interview training. This will be followed by full length mock interview with comprehensive feedback.

<https://www.medentry.edu.au/our-services/interviews-admissions/medical-interview-training>

H.S.I.E.

Aboriginal Studies, Ancient History, Business Studies, Economics, Geography, Legal Studies, Modern History, Society and Culture, Studies of Religion

The University of Sydney - Commerce or economics: which degree for me?

Wednesday 25 November, 5.30-6.40pm

The world needs experts with the problem-solving, analytical and critical thinking skills of business and economics graduates to tackle the challenges of an ever-changing society. Gain the hands-on experience to develop into resilient future leaders. But what's the difference between these two degrees?

https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DummqlbnRKu-BcPThnuzZw

Be an entrepreneur

Starting your own business can be one of the most rewarding and satisfying experiences you can have. Find out more with our guide to getting started. Starting your own business and entering the world of entrepreneurship is something that more and more Australians are doing.

The increase in connectedness across the globe means that the structure of employment has changed rapidly, enabling more people to realise their dream of becoming a business owner.

<https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/education-blogs/career-guidance/be-an-entrepreneur>

Start Up Business - INCUBATE Accelerator - 2020 Drop in Info Session

5 November

19 November

Learn more about the INCUBATE Accelerator program — Australia's leading and largest university start-up accelerator.

Have an exciting idea, but not sure how to take it to the next step?

Want to pitch your start-up and get some feedback and tips?

Attend industry events for inspiration, networking and learning opportunities

<https://incubate.org.au/events/>

Study at ACU Law and Business Webinar!

This talk focuses on ACU's business and law courses, highlighting ACU's Passion for Business and Passion for Law entry programs. A current business student, law student and an ACU graduate will share their experiences and answer your questions. Register now:

<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/events/2020/november/a-focus-on-business-and-law>

ICMS Virtual Parents Information Evening

26 November. 7:00 Pm-8:00 Pm

The ICMS Parents Information Evening will help you assist your child to succeed in their journey to higher education. As a parent, your assistance is vital. This may be in helping choose the right degree or institution, providing financial assistance or simply offering moral support in what can be both a daunting and exciting time. Your support is vital to a successful transition to tertiary studies.

<https://www.icms.edu.au/event/icms-Parents-Information-Evening/>

In conversation with Todd Sampson Experience Speaker Series 2020

26 November

After completing an MBA and enjoying a successful career in advertising, Todd Sampson transferred his talents to TV as a part of ABC show 'Gruen'. Since then, he has written, produced and starred in award-winning shows 'Redesign My Brain' and 'Body Hack', pushing his mind and body to limits of human endurance in the name of science (and entertainment).

Away from the screen, he is the co-creator of Earth Hour, served on the boards of Fairfax Media and Qantas, and also found time to climb Mt Everest".

Join as Todd talks through his career, his adventures in front of the camera, and what drives him to push the boundaries of human endurance.

<https://www.torrens.edu.au/speaker-series-2020-brain-power>

CAPA

Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts

The University of Sydney - Which music degree is right for me?

Tuesday 24 November, 5-6pm

Are you considering studying Music, but unsure of which degree to choose and what careers it could lead to?

Studying music at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music can lead to many careers from performing in orchestras, conducting operas, teaching music in schools, playing in rock bands or composing film scores:

https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bMlcMc12RF-CpNcNzs217g

Women in Design, Construction & Data

12 November 11:00am-12pm via Zoom

Meet a group of women working in the design, construction and data industries! Each of the eight panel members will share what they do in their job, discuss why they enjoy it, share highlights and challenges faced in their journey and share their hopes for the future. The Q & A session will provide the opportunity to ask questions of the panellists. Register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/y58dbmdx>

NIDA Young Actors Studio – 15 to 18 years Auditions

Develop your vocal, physical and imaginative dexterity as you explore and apply NIDA acting techniques.

Collaborate with other young artists in an ensemble to develop skills for stage and screen. Work with the support and direction from core tutors and gain inspiration from industry professionals Auditions 2020/2021

Sydney

Sun 13 Dec, 2020 10am

Sun 10 Jan, 2021 10am OR 2pm

Melbourne

Sun 10 Jan, 2021 10am

Brisbane

Sun 10 Jan, 2021 10am

Entry to the Young Actors Studio is by audition only. Detailed audition information will be sent via downloadable link within 2 working days of enrolment.

<https://www.open.nida.edu.au/course/OSYASAU>

T.A.S.

Agriculture, Design and Technology, Engineering Studies, Food Technology, Industrial Technology, Information Processes Technology and Technology, Software Design and Development, Textiles and Design

I.T. Lovers - Keep an Eye on this for 2021 - Digital Cadetship Program

Applications will open again in May 2021

The Digital Cadetship Program gives you an opportunity to practise and develop your skills while you're still studying. You'll get to work in the industry while you finish studying and get a leg-up for a successful digital or technical career with the Australian Government.

The Digital Cadetship Program is for Australian citizens who are currently studying an undergraduate or postgraduate degree in a digital or technology-related field.

If you've completed 1st year (or equivalent) of your degree you can apply for the digital cadetship program.

If you're currently studying one of the [listed degrees](#) then you should consider applying.

Double and honours degrees in these fields are also accepted.

Who you'll be working for

Positions in 2021 will be available across the Australian Public Service for people seeking to start their digital or technical career. Participating agencies will vary each year.

If your degree is not listed but you believe it's suited to a digital cadetship placement please [get in touch](#) to discuss your options.

<https://www.dta.gov.au/help-and-advice/learning-and-development/start-your-digital-career-government/digital-cadetship-program>

Fashion Experience Speaker Series 2020

10 December

We are thrilled to welcome two of the industry's biggest names to join us – Alex Perry and Pip Edwards.

Alex needs no introduction, having been one of world fashion's biggest names for almost 3 decades. He has dressed the likes of Jennifer Lopez, Megan Gale, Elle Macpherson, Linda Evangelista and Jennifer Hawkins. Alex is also a regular on our TV screens through shows such as Project Runway and Australia's Next Top Model.

Pip Edwards burst onto the scene as co-founder of streetwear brand P.E Nation, having previously worked as a designer for sass and bide and Ksubi. With a list of fans including Margot Robbie, Cate Blanchett and the Kardashians, Pip is firmly established as one of Australian fashion's most influential figures.

<https://www.torrens.edu.au/speaker-series-2020-fashion>

Women in Design, Construction & Data

12 November 11:00am-12:pm via Zoom

Meet a group of women working in the design, construction and data industries! Each of the eight panel members will share what they do in their job, discuss why they enjoy it, share highlights and challenges faced in their journey and share their hopes for the future. The Q & A session will provide the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists.

Register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/y58dbmdx>

Hospitality & Tourism Experience Speaker Series 2020

12 November

It is fair to say that Australia's hospitality and tourism industry has endured a difficult 12 months. Looking to the future, our expert panel will assess the impact of bushfires and COVID-19 and consider the pathway to recovery. Joining us will be Stuart Ayres MP, NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, alongside Jerome Casteigt, General Manager of the Business & Hospitality Faculty at Torrens University, and Grace Brennan, creator of the hugely successful #buyfromthebush campaign. We are also delighted to welcome back to Torrens University a very special guest, award-winning chef and TV host, Manu Feildel.

Register your details to join the conversation live from the comfort of your own home.

<https://www.torrens.edu.au/speaker-series-2020-hospitality-tourism>

Enter the World of Le Cordon Bleu Careers Residential

Enter the World of Le Cordon Bleu' in 3-day residential! Opening doors to high school students in Years 11 & 12, to experience a 'day in the life' at one of the world's leading culinary and hospitality institutions to provide a taste of what a future career in global hospitality will be like. Gastronomy and management to the next level ...and join the session at Le Cordon Bleu Sydney! Joan KIM jkim@cordobleu.edu tel: 612 8878 3103 Le Cordon Bleu Australia.

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Australian Training Company Apprenticeships

Select the traineeship or apprenticeship you are interested in, click the 'Apply Now' button and complete the online Vacancy Application Form and attach your resume. To help us find a job that is perfect for you, narrow your search criteria by adding a keyword and making a selection from any/all of the drop-down menus.

Or if you are interested in finding out more, simply contact your local ATC office and ask to speak to one of our Account Managers on: 02 9704 1550.

Search the list of available apprenticeships here -

<http://austrg.com.au/job-vacancies/>

Apprenticeships & Traineeships Available

The Apprentice Employment Network and its 29 member Group Training Organisations have over 1000 apprenticeships & traineeships on offer for school leavers. We are also running numerous pre apprenticeships courses giving school leavers a kick start they need for picking up a trade.

<https://aennswact.com.au/find-an-apprenticeship/>

TAFE NSW Pathways to Degrees

We offer many pathways to Degrees at TAFE NSW to help students get the job they want. Follow our pathway journeys in Engineering, Construction, Tourism and Retail, some of the occupations available and their salaries.

<https://www.tafensw.edu.au/documents/60140/338518/TVET-pathway.pdf>

Apprenticeship Careers Profiles Across All Industries

Looking for more information about a specific Apprenticeship or Traineeship? Take a look at the Career Profiles for an in-depth look at what's involved in a specific Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

<https://www.apprenticeshipcareers.com.au/Job-Seekers/Career-Profiles>

Apprenticeships and Traineeship Information Session

3 November

Have you stopped to think about what's waiting for you after school ends? What lies beyond the finish line? Join VERTO CareerGate's Apprenticeship and Traineeship information session and Q&A where you will learn all you need to know about Vocational Education and Training and take the first step towards your dream career. For more information contact:

careergatecandidate@verto.org.au

VET Construction

Productivity Bootcamp Accelerated 5 week program November 2020

Looking to secure an apprenticeship in 2021? Stand out above the rest with Productivity Bootcamp's Accelerated 5week program. Offering a wide range of skills such as carpentry, electrical, concreting, landscaping, plumbing and more! To be eligible, you must be completing your HSC in 2020, have a drivers licence or be working towards one.

Apply for Nov 2020 at:

info@productivitybootcamp.com.au

VET Electrotechnology

NECA training is currently making time for online

Information sessions. 2021 has made it hard for them to get out and speak with students about opportunities in the electrical industry. They know some students will have many questions about what career path is best for them.

These information sessions are designed to help students who might be interested in a career in electrotechnology make informed choices about their careers. Please email to register. These sessions are not time specific and can be tailored to suite. E. glenn.rochaix@necatrainng.com.au Visit:

www.necatrainng.com.au

Productivity Bootcamp Accelerated 5 week program November 2020

Looking to secure an apprenticeship in 2021? Stand out above the rest with Productivity Bootcamp's Accelerated 5week program. Offering a wide range of skills such as carpentry, electrical, concreting, landscaping, plumbing and more! To be eligible, you must be completing your HSC in 2020, have a drivers licence or be working towards one.

Apply for Nov 2020 at:

info@productivitybootcamp.com.au

VET Financial Services

The University of Sydney - Commerce or economics: which degree for me?

Wednesday 25 November, 5.30-6.40pm

The world needs experts with the problem-solving, analytical and critical thinking skills of business and economics graduates to tackle the challenges of an ever-changing society. Gain the hands-on experience to develop into resilient future leaders. But what's the difference between these two degrees?

https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DummqlbnRKu-BcPThnuzZw

Study at ACU Law and Business Webinar!

This talk focuses on ACU's business and law courses, highlighting ACU's Passion for Business and Passion for Law entry programs. A current business student, law student and an ACU graduate will share their experiences and answer your questions. Register now:

<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/events/2020/november/a-focus-on-business-and-law>

VET Hospitality

RSA Courses Kenvale College

31 October

7 November

21 November

5 December

19 December

Get in quick for Barista, First aid and RSA courses. For registration and more info, visit below.

Any questions, please contact us at enquiries@kenvale.edu.au / 02 9314 6213

<https://kenvale.edu.au/event-directory/>

New South Wales Police – Recruitment Information Sessions

Please Note: Tickets for these events will not be available until the times and dates specified below via the Eventbrite link.

Recruitment Information & PCT Practice Session - NOW OPEN

Bulli PCYC

Note: You must be 18 years of age to attend this event

Tuesday 3 November 2020

Time: 11.00am - 2.00pm

Tickets available 8.00am 2 October 2020

Australian Federal Police - Entry Level Recruit - Policing and Protective Service Officer Recruitment 2020 Apply by 18 December 2020

The AFP is interested in attracting individuals who are up for the challenge – both physically and mentally for our entry level recruit – Police Officer and Protective Service Officer Roles. If you want to give back to the community, align with our core values of integrity, commitment, accountability, fairness, trust and respect than you are strongly encouraged to apply.

What is a Protective Service Officer?

Protective Service Officers deliver protective security and first response capability to protect Australia's interests. As first responders, PSO's assess the appropriate law enforcement response for the situation, report and collate relevant data and maintain cooperative relationships with stakeholders and the public when protecting people, assets and critical infrastructure such as Parliament House and key Defence sites.

Protective Service Officer (PSO) work in AFP Stations in capital cities and remote locations as well as at major Australian airports across Australia, however no PSO opportunities are available in Tasmania.

What does a Police Officer do?

Policing opportunities exist within ACT Community Policing based in Canberra.

ACT Community Police Officers are responsible for providing public safety within the ACT and are alert, equipped and ready to respond to any threats of violence in the Nation's Capital.

ACT Police are a first point of contact for the public requiring police assistance and will be required to investigate breaches of the law, assess evidence and interview witnesses over the course of investigations. ACT Community Police have a genuine interest in servicing the community in roles such as general duties, community safety, criminal investigations, traffic operations and intelligence.

As an ACT Community Police Officer, you can expect to attend incidents involving many crime types, such as; homicide, assault and other offences against a person; robbery and burglary; vehicle theft and property damage and other offences including deception, weapon, drug and public order offences.

Please Note: At times opportunities may exist for police recruits to be deployed to our state commands ie. Eastern Command (Sydney), Southern Command (Melbourne).

Am I eligible?

Although we welcome applications from all, to progress through this process you must:

- be an Australian citizen;
- be 18 years of age or older. If you are not yet 18 - don't worry you can still apply, but you will be unable to progress until your 18th birthday;
- have a minimum Year 10 Certificate with Cert IV/Diploma or Trade level qualification/Certificate. University level qualifications are welcomed;
- hold a valid Australian driver's licence (P Plates are accepted however if you have a learners licence please apply once you have your provisional licence).

https://career10.successfactors.com/career?career%5fns=job%5flisting&company=digitaltra&navBarLevel=JOB%5fEARCH&rcm%5fsite%5flocale=en%5fGB&career_job_req_id=3780&selected_lang=en_GB&jobAlertController_jobAlertId=&jobAlertController_jobAlertName=&s.crb=EgY5EwRYMzj4b6NnPOSQys%2bL2EOavr1ehShjj6qBhpw%3d

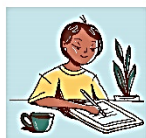
Ms J Ellem
Careers Adviser

Community Announcement

School Holiday Program **FOR READERS + WRITERS**

Join the South Coast Writers Centre's School Holiday Program for a day of interactive workshops for young readers and writers at Coledale Community Hall!

**THURSDAY 14TH
JANUARY 2021**



WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

with Helena Fox - 11.30am-1.30pm

Ages 10-13: Join YA author Helena Fox for a lot of fun, relaxed writing prompts, and even do some drawing, as we create wonderful worlds together.



WHO ARE YOU?

with Helena Fox - 2.30pm-4.30pm

Ages 14-18: Explore the different ways characters can look, think, move and interact with each other, as well as learn the things they want and what makes them tick.

Young Writers Program Term One 2021

Led by Victorian Premier's Award winning author Helena Fox, the Y.W. Program is built on active, workshop-based learning and practice. In each weekly workshop, writers respond to prompts, learn about elements of craft, share their work, and critique their peers. The aim of the Y.W.P. is for young writers to develop their craft and create work they are proud of, in a relaxed, inclusive, and supportive space, with opportunities for them to publicly read and publish their work. . More info: southcoastwriters.org/ywp



Information + enrolments at
southcoastwriters.org/upcomingevents
or on 4228 0151

Great traditions, a confident future.





Keira High School

Lysaght Street

FAIRY MEADOW NSW 2519

Telephone: 02 4229 4644

Email: keira-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au